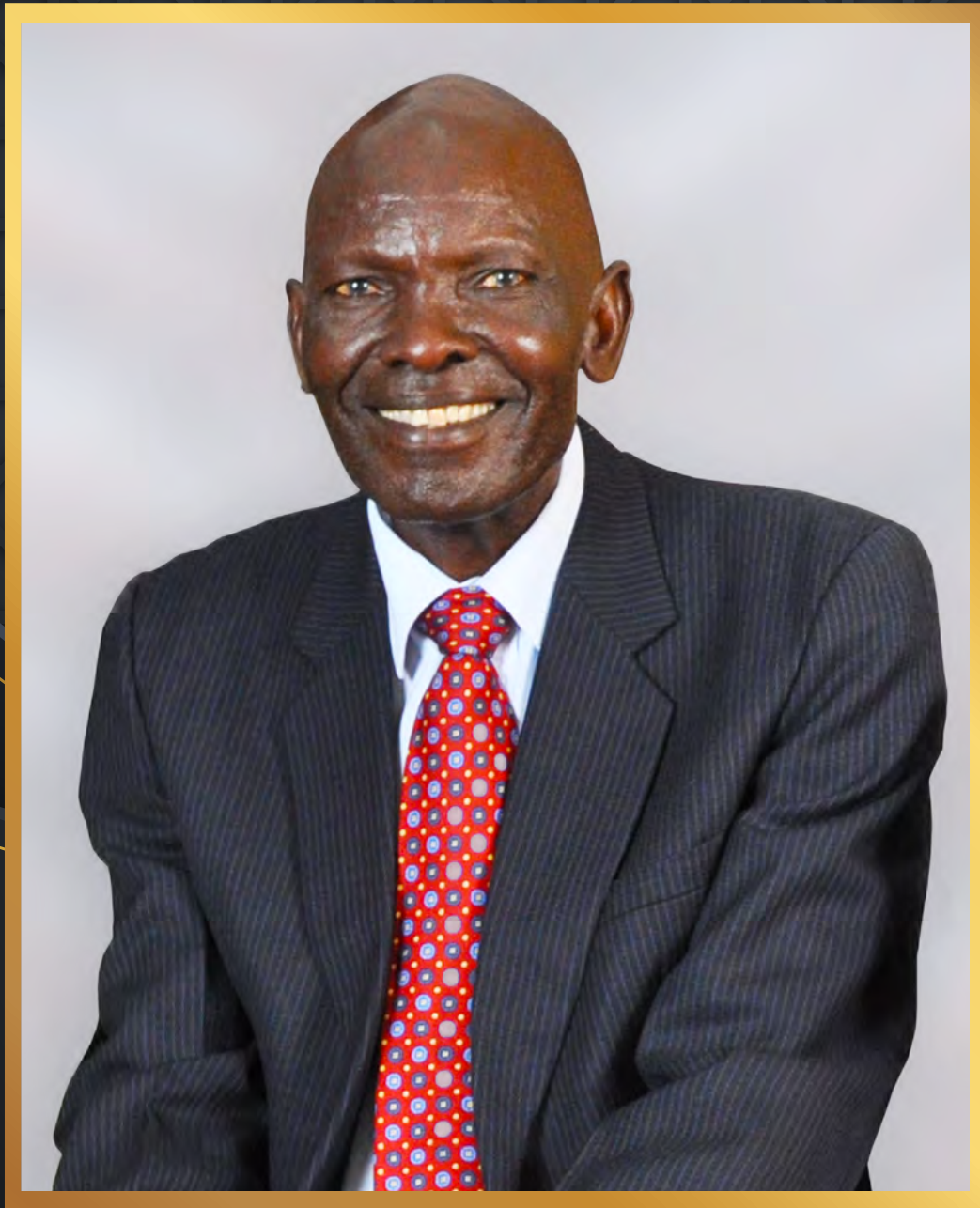


# *Celebrating the life of*



**MZEE SAMUEL OMITI OGALO**

**Sunrise 1944**

**Sunset 2020**



# Programme

## FUNERAL PROGRAMME FOR THE LATE MZEE SAMUEL OMITI OGALO THURSDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2020

- 2:00: - Assemble at the Agakhan Hospital Mortuary Kisumu
- 2:30 - Prayers and viewing of the body
- 3:30 - Cortege leaves for home
- 5:30 - Arrival at Sikri
- 5:30 - 7:00 - Viewing of the Body
- 8:00 - Overnight Prayers and Song Service

## Friday 7th February 2020

- Hymn Songs
- No. 275: Ageno wana rom
- No 269: Piny ni ok thurwa mwageno
- No 24 Jawarna to ni Yesu
- No. 177 Ka chandruok osudo machiegni kodi
- No 181: Does Jesus care
- No 530: It is well
- No 538 Guide me O, thy great Jehovah
- 8:30 am - 10:30 am: - Viewing of the body
- 10:30 am: - Mourners assemble
- 10: 45 am: - Funeral service begins
- Opening Song
- Opening Prayer
- Welcoming remarks - Lawi/ Dr. Kambona
- Bible readings: 1st - 5th readings
- Hymn
- Eulogy: Fred Riaga
- Tributes
  - Sisters
  - Brothers
  - Wife
  - Children/Grand Children
  - In laws/ Korera
  - Nephews/ Nieces
  - Uncles/ Aunties/ Cousins
  - Friends/ Neighbours
  - Committee Representatives
  - Provincial Administration
  - Political Leader
- Song
- Offering
- Key Text
- Sermon
- Prayer for the family
- Vote of thanks
- Recessional Hymns
- Prayers at graveside
- Prayers for family in the house

# Eulogy



## Birth and Early Life

Mzee Samuel Omiti Ogalo "Agwambo" was born in 1944 to Jaduong Zephania Ogalo Ongou and the late Mama Salome Ochieng Ogalo of Katinda village, Kachieng sub-location, East Kamagak of Kasipul Constituency of Homabay County.

Mzee Omiti was brother to the late leader of the Luo Council of elders "Ker" Riaga Ogalo, Kingsley Ogalo, Isaiah Opiyo, Gedieon Ogalo, the late John Ogalo, the late Esther, the late Mary, Florence, Rael, and Lydia.

The young Omiti was an active boy in his childhood, participated fully in family activities like farming, looking after cattle, and was dearly loved by his mother mama Salome, as he would help to look after his younger siblings.

## Education and Employment

The hard working young Samuel started schooling at Wire Intermediate School, where he performed well and joined AgoroSare High School for his secondary education. He then moved to the exclusive Government School, Kisii, the present-day Kisii School where he completed his secondary studies in 1964.

After attaining his secondary school certificate, Mr. Omiti moved to Nairobi and joined the prestigious Survey of Kenya training college. He completed his training and graduated as one of the first indigenous draughts men in independent Kenya. He was immediately employed by Howard Humphreys, at that time renowned as one of the leading consulting engineering companies that carry out engineering design and project management. He continued to work for the company until 1988 when he left formal employment to do private consultancy work.

## Social and Family Life

During his working years, Mr Omiti was an astute investor and managed to be one of the few homeowners in the very prestigious south c estate where he lived for more than 40 years. He also managed to support his wife to take their first-born daughter Hellen to India in the eighties, which was no mean feat. Those who know Mr. Omiti will remember that Parkview 47 was a home to many. Many of his nephews and nieces would call South C home as they charted their way in life.

Mzee Omiti Ogalo met the love of his life Rachael Omiti in 1961 and they were good friends for 4 years before he married her in August 1966. The couple was blessed with four children; Hellen Akinyi Machora, Caroline Adongo Omiti, Fredrick Oloo Omiti, and Maureen Brenda Omiti. Mzee Omiti treasured his family very much and would often take time to join them in family vacations. He was especially grateful to his daughter Hellen when after a trip to Dubai, he exclaimed that he had now seen enough and even if he died, he would go a happy man.



# Eulogy

Mzee has also left behind four grandchildren; Rachael Zakumi, Sally Ogalo, Tiffany Oloo, and Wayne Henry. He loved his grandchildren dearly and was especially thrilled this December when they all came to spend the Christmas holiday in Oyugis with him and he even stayed up late on Christmas Eve to sing merry Christmas hymns with the children. Mzee Omiti was a loving father who was committed to keeping his family together. He ensured his children the best education. He loved his wife dearly and they always did things together. He was harsh yet gentle, strict yet loving and all the time wise. He was an inspiration to his family.

Mzee Omiti had a big heart for his extended family and though he was left with big shoes to fit upon the death of his brother Ker Riaga, he took up the responsibility with great gusto and would soon be the go to advisor for anyone who had a big decision or family event. He willingly represent the family as the head in dowry negotiations, graduations and even during funerals, he ably represented the clan. He was a supporter to the widows, a father to the orphans and a friend to the community.

In his later life, Mzee would begin to spend more and more of his life in Oyugis where he developed a passion for farming. He was especially enthusiastic about small-scale cultivation of maize and beans and often researched on improved ways on farming which saw him realize a bountiful harvest during both the long and short rainy seasons. He would proudly show his visitors his farms whenever they would visit him and it was common knowledge that if you wanted to buy some gogoro or two of superior quality maize, you would get it at Mzee Omiti's. Indeed, he had just this January concluded plans that would see him lease more parcels of land to extend his farming venture.



## **Illness and Demise**

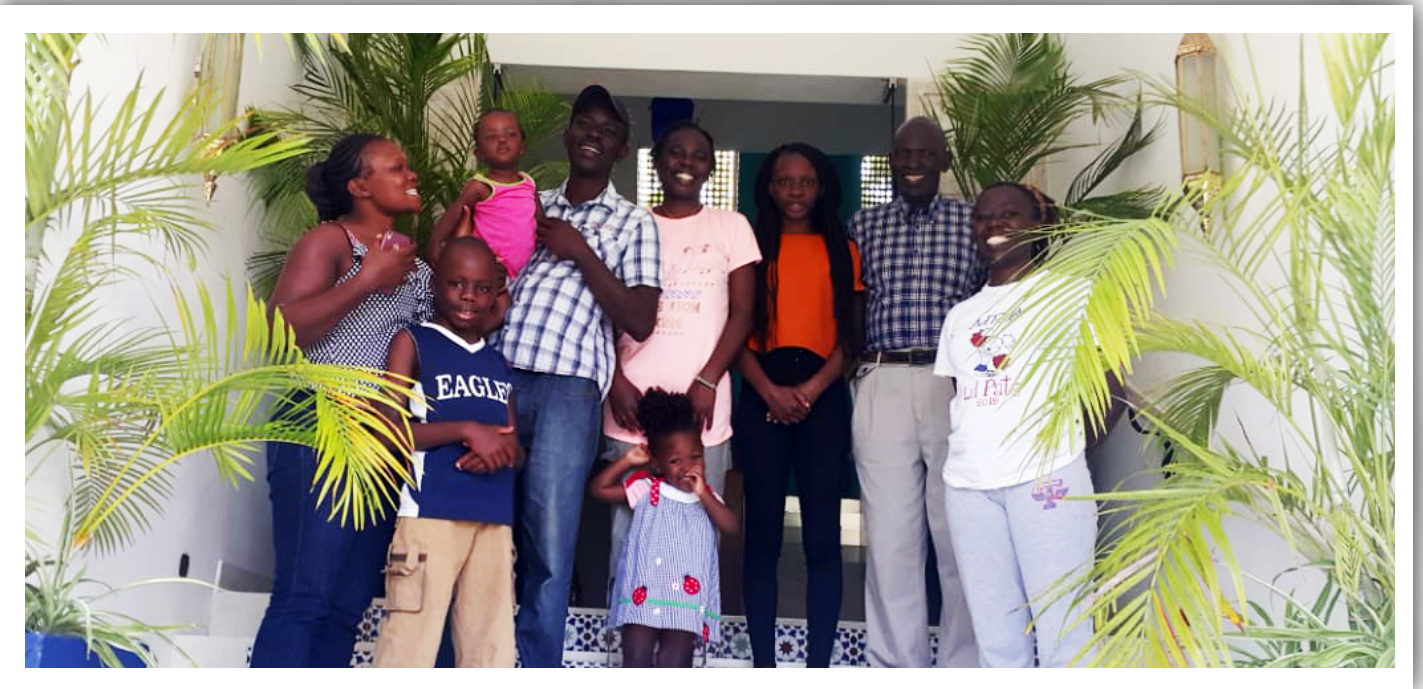
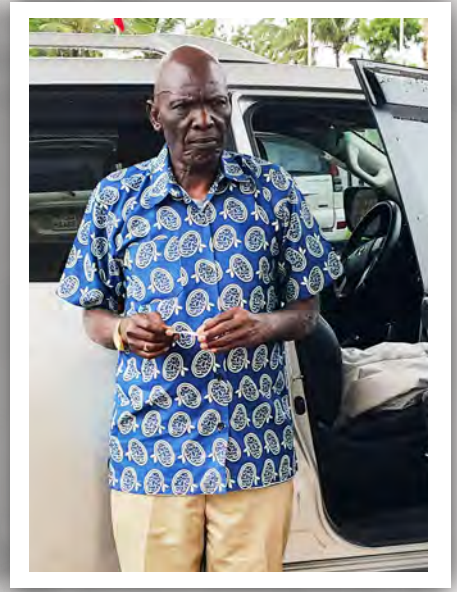
Mzee Omiti was blessed with good health for most of his life. In the year 2010, however Mzee Omiti was diagnosed with a heart condition and was referred to Dr. Nyamu. He was treated and put on medication to manage the condition. Mzee would frequently visit Dr. Nyamu's clinics for monitoring and just last December, the doctor was impressed by how well Mzee had improved over the years. On the Morning of Friday 17th Mzee Omiti woke up early as was his routine, drank some porridge with is medication, bid his wife farewell and left to supervise the harvesting of this season's maize harvest. He would later call the house requesting tea to be brought for the firm hands to drink. As he was leaving his farm to go back to the house, he suddenly collapsed and the farmhands hurried to call for help .He was quickly rushed to Matata hospital for first aid but was sadly pronounced dead on arrival. Mzee Omiti lived his life to the ripe age of 76 years. Not many people in life are blessed to have a peaceful transition in the midst of what they love doing. Indeed Mzee Omiti was a blessed man.

Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord, and perpetual light shine on him. May his soul rest in peace. Amen

# Pictorial



# Pictorial



# Tributes



Baba Akinyi, You were my rock, mentor, anchor and a strong pillar to lean on. You were my faithful companion for the last 54 years of our life together; not to mention the 4 years of friendship before marriage. We enjoyed a close relationship together and you gave me love, support, and confidence.

You gave your all to me and to our children. Your family was first before anything else. Your closeness to our children gave them confidence to trust you and created an environment for me, and them to find our strength.

You went to the shamba that gave you so much pride and joy, and it was the last time I saw you. A matter of hours later you were gone. It is hard to believe that you left me without saying goodbye, but you died in the place you loved, doing what brought you joy. I will keep my love for you forever. I will do my best to hold our family together as was your wish, and with God's strength I know I will. For I know you are counting on me.

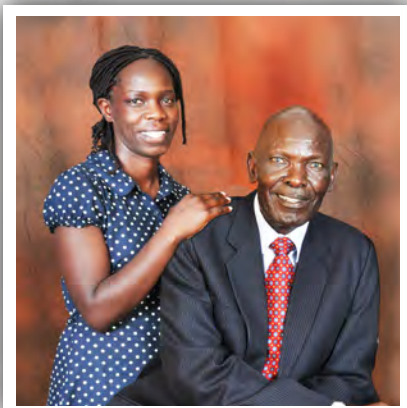
I truly loved you, trusted you, and will live to cherish what both of us loved and shared together. We hold you close in our hearts, and there you shall remain to walk with us for the rest of our lives, until we meet again. So rest in peace my love, and thank you for all you were and all you did. **Your Loving Wife and partner in Life Mrs Rachel Mary Omiti**

Dad, We'll always remember, That special smile, That caring heart, That warm embrace. You always gave us, You being there for mum and us, Through good and bad times. No matter what, We'll always remember you Dad because, They'll never be another one. To replace you in our hearts, And the love we always have for you. Eternal Rest Grant unto Dad Oh Lord, and shine your perpetual light on Dad. May Dad's soul through the Mercy of God rest in Eternal peace.

**Hellen Omiti-Machora, daughter.**

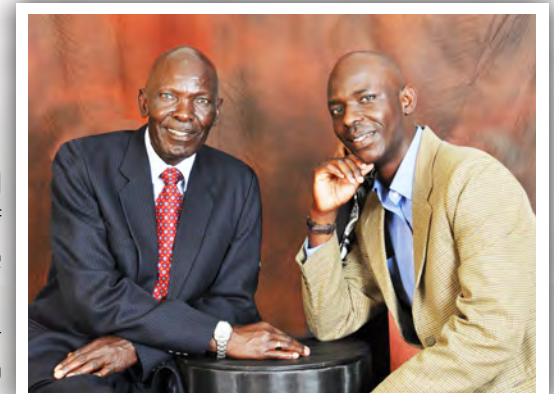


A successful man. That man is a success who has lived well, laughed often and loved much. Who has gained the respect of intelligent men and the love of children. Who has fulfilled his purpose and accomplished his task; who leaves the world a better place than he found it. Dad will always hold a special place in our lives, full of memories of how he has shaped our futures and guided us through thick and thin. Rest in peace - **Caroline Adongo, Daughter**



A special dad is hard to find. You, Dad, I'm keeping in my mind. I wished you could have stayed forever, But I will never forget you; not ever. If dreams weren't dreams and dreams came true, I wouldn't be here; I'd be with you. Distance is one thing that keeps us apart. But, Dad, you will always remain in my heart. A special smile, a special face, A special someone I can't replace, I love you and I always will. You filled a space that no one else could fulfill. Go well Dad. - **Fred Oloo, Son**

**Mzee Samuel Omiti Ogalo**



# Tributes



Death has once again robbed our family of a good man, a great father to his children, a loving grandfather to his grandchildren and a source of wisdom for the larger family. I will always remember the happy days we shared together whether on Sunday afternoon lunch, or in the village verandah at breakfast or away on holiday enjoying the trip aboard the Madaraka express. We will all miss that look that you would give us when we were not keeping time before a function or a trip because you were a meticulous man who liked to keep time. They say in all things give thanks to the Lord, so I thank the Lord for the long life he granted you and allowed you to share them with us, and even though you departed suddenly with no warning, I thank the Lord for granting you a peaceful transition and in the midst of what gave you the greatest joy in your old age. Rest easy Father, Till we meet again. **Maureen Omiti, Daughter**

Grand Father, Thank you so much for all the good things you did for me you always had time to talk with me and play with me and Sally. I thank you for loving us and for caring for us all the times we were together. I enjoyed the last holiday in the village with you and grandmother. It was fun staying up on 24th December to sing merry Christmas for you and grandmother. I miss you so much and wish I could see you one more time before you went away. I loved you and will always love you. Rest in peace grandfather. **Rachel Zakumi, Grand Daughter.**



Four years ago you took over the mantle to lead the entire Kogallo family. You were strong and we thought you would be there a little longer to hold the family. We thank God for the time you lived. Rest In Peace dear uncle. Agwambo! wuod nyar kabienge. - **Elga Riaga**

To Nyakwar Ongou wuod Ogalo. We thank the Almighty God for the 76 years that he provided for you in this world. It has been greatful having you around for those years. Pumzika gi kweeh wuod Nyar Kabienge, wuod Ogalo Tibim X2, owadgi KER kod Ondiek Ondiek. Fare the well - Amen - **Ken Riaga**

I have no proper/exact words to describe your sudden death "Mzee"! It is just the other day we celebrated christmas together here at your home and you were jovial and in good sound health You were truthful, selfless, very principled and your simplicity crowned it all,...the reason your great family is blessed and glued together..



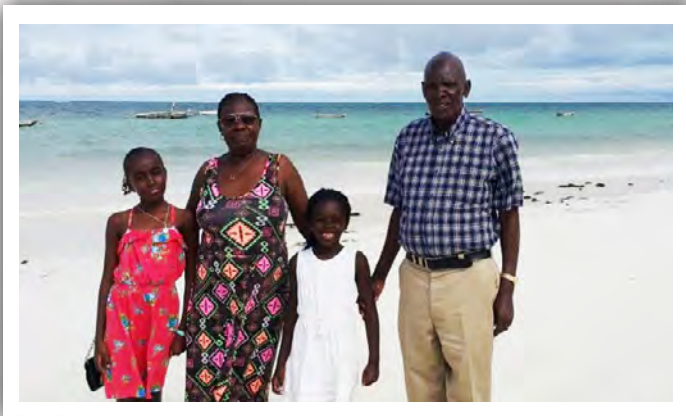
It's hard to accept that death has robbed me. To us you were Fathee, Daddy thanks for standing with Omullo's. We really appreciate your support and will miss your presence in our lives God be with you till we meet again - **Fred Omullo.**

Your sudden demise has brought another deep dent to Kogalo family. Onge wach saa ni ne ochopo. Yue mos wuod Salome Ausa Nyar Kabienge. Pelly Apello nyakwar Salome Ausa Nyar Kabienge. **Pamela Riaga**

Sorrow fills my heart this sad moment, a sorrow that is deep and personal. You have suddenly closed the door and departed from us uncle; our lives will be empty again in the many areas. You were so gentle, thoughtful and charitable man who ever lived. Thank you for

opening for us the door after the demise of our loving dad. Now that you are both gone, I fill so empty. Till we meet again in greater joy and love, REST IN PEACE as we wait for the trumpet of the Lord - **Molly Riaga, Niece**

# Pictorial



# Tributes

We little knew that morning God was to call your name. It broke our hearts to lose you, but you did not go alone. For part of us went with you, we the day God called you home. You left us beautiful memories, your love is still our guide. Our family chain is broken, and nothing seems the same, but as God calls us one by one, the chain will link again. Although we loved you dearly, we could not make you stay, a golden heart stopped beating. It came as a surprise, we still in shock; but why did you have to go that early?? It's not fair, you've really broken our hearts and we won't forgive you for this. God you broke our hearts, to prove to us you only take "THE BEST". Nind gi kwe Agwambo and remember to tell your brother, Ker. Riaga Ogalo that we will dearly miss the two of you. Death you "MUST" also die one day! - **Phil Riaga**



Mzee Omiti or baba Hellen as we called you our God has chosen let you rest but indeed you remain alive in our hearts. We met mzee during hellens wedding and he always greeted us with a firm handshake and handsome smile and calmly ask about our family his care for friends was always evident Mzee spoke his mind without fear irrespective of his audience an admirable principle . He wasted no time in camouflage. At Richard's memorial service Mzee the Rock and pillar of the Omiti family, stood tall , healthy and strong and his sudden death was shocking and extremely sad. We the Mwanzias wish to thank the almighty God for the years he gave mzee on earth and now that he has taken his final bow let's celebrate his life and keep his memories alive Mama Hellen and family our prayer is that you find peace and unity and at this trying time .may you be comforted by the words found in the book of **Psalms 73.26**

**MY FLESH AND MY HEART MAY FAIL BUT GOD IS THE STRENGTH OF MY HEART AND MY PORTION FOREVER. FARE THEE WELL MZEE OMITI. - The Mwanzias**

Tribute to a loving Dad, It's hard to speak about you in summary for the so many good things you were as a father. I have known you for over 25 years. Always compassionate, loving, and full of grace. The last time we met, my friend and sister Hellen, Mum, Fred and family, my children and I, had lunch together. We were supposed to leave earlier but as the Lord had planned we ended up sharing the meal, little did I know it was the last time we would see each other. Your demise has left a deep wound in my heart. What has saddened me is that each time we met you always reminded me Haujakuja Oyugis and I had promised to visit Oyugis which I shall still do in your honour.

You were honest and so kind and always happy. You were not only a father to me but a friend. You loved your children as well as their friends and you knew each by name. You always had kind words that expressed the sincerity of the heart. As we lay you to rests may you shine on your way. We shall surely miss you.

A successful Man (By Bessie Anderson Stanley)

That man is a success

Who has lived well, laughed often and loved much;

Who has gained the respect of intelligent men and the love of his children;

Who has filled his niche and accomplished his task;

Who has never lacked appreciation of earth's beauty or failed to express it,

Who looked for the best in others and gave the best he had. RIP DAD. **Grace Nyongesa**

# Pictorial



# Pictorial



# Tributes

"God give me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, wisdom to change the ones I can, and knowledge to know the difference." To my great friend Hellen and your siblings..."It Shall Be Well". May your departed soul rest in eternal peace till we meet again Mzee. - **Ruth Kemunto**

Baba Akinyi a legend has passed there is nothing left to be said. Thank you for being my dad for all these years. I'll cherish everything you did to me and forever be great full to you and mama Akinyi. May the lord bless and keep your family and give them peace till we meet again - **June Oyugi: Niece**

Few men stand fearlessly to defend the truth and speak their minds. One such man was my uncle Samuel Omiti son of Ogalo. With his commanding voice, tall stature and piercing sharp eyes, uncle would stand to look you in the eye and express his mind on any matter however controversial and to whoever you are especially when everyone else feared to talk. He was forthright and had no apologies for that.

Like Martin Luther King Junior once said, "the ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort, but where he stands in moments of challenge and controversy, uncle Omiti W'Ogalo would say it as it is. In most cases, this helped us all move forward in making decisions after which he would flash his charming smile and follow it with the all too familiar big hearty laugh. This steadfastness was expressed in equal measure in the form of his love for Aunty Rachel, Hellen, Carolyne Maureen, and Fred. Family to him came first and there were no two ways about it. We will dearly miss your engaging presence but your legacy lives on - **Dr. Kenneth Kambona - Nephew**

## **Tribute to my beloved cousin - The Late Samuel Omiti Ogalo - Agwambo(The Slender)**

It hurts me a lot more every moment I remember the demise of my beloved cousin Samuel Omiti Ogalo (The Slender). In our youthful days of the 1950's, I remember him as a loving person, with whom we could go to school at Wire Primary School after we had been given sweet potatoes to carry for lunch by his beloved mother The Late Salome Ochieng. Although during the above period I was just a relative living with his family, he indeed accommodated me with love all through, a gesture that is rare with most people. After we finished our secondary education, we both met and worked in Nairobi where we continued to be good family friends but more importantly, I appreciate the Omiti family for having been with me throughout the ailing and consequently the demise of my loved wife The Late Grace Otieno.

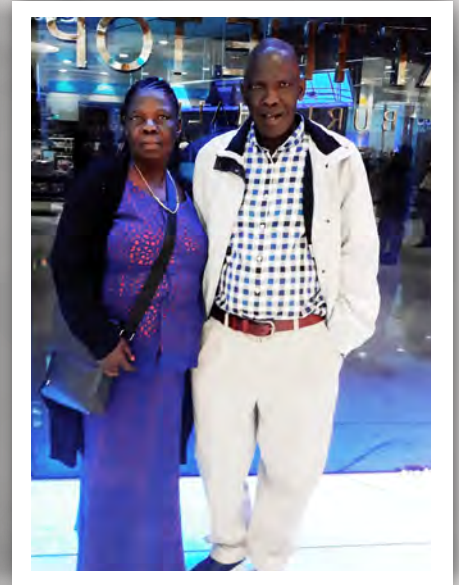
Since it is impossible to say everything about my beloved Samuel, I just say something about our youthful good days with "Sam" - The Slender as we used to call him because he was well dressed when he occasioned Christmas functions! I also copied him and dressed like him! Wuon Akinyi as he was known lately could not entertain nonsense and was very strict. His life and works reflected a positive value driven heart keeping priorities intact while and carrying on with determination. May God the All Mighty who called him to paradise rest his soul in eternal peace. Amen - **Sir George Walter Otieno Adede**

Through everything the strength we got from you has kept us going. You were a pillar in the society and a shining light in our lives....till we meet again AGWAMBO NIND MABER OKE KANEA. . **Paul Ochieng Riaga**



*Mzee Samuel Omiti Ogalo*

# Pictorial



# Hymns

## 177...KaChandruokOsudoMachiegniKodi "Light Beyond The Shadow"

1. Kachandruokosudomachiegnikodi,  
Kayo man e nyimiotimomudho,  
Nitielermogwedhi man kuomRuothYesu,  
Monegoing`imondoilotemruok.

Ne lerYesu kaka orienymaler,  
Lermogwedhimariemboluoro;  
Ng`iwang` Yesumudhonorangi  
Gen Yesukendenikechenmachiegni.

2. Kata ok ing`eyotientding`nimapek,  
Mosechandi e ngimani e pinyka;  
Mond` iting` msalapi e chandruokduto,  
Kendo igenYesundalodutote.

3. Dhinyimekuomyiemondoilotemruok,  
King`eyokaJawar ni buti pile;  
Kata kalwenytek to kikchunyioa,  
Jawarnokonyimondoilotemruok.

4. Kata lwenygerchutho, katakuyothoth,  
Kata temruokduong` machiegnihingoi;  
Ruoth ni buti pile nomiyiteko,  
Mar loyotemruokdutomabironi.

## 269. Pinyini Ok Thurwa Mwageno "We ve No Abiding City Here"

1. Pinyini ok thurwamwageno;  
Waongedalamosiko;  
To wachniohayochunywa,  
Wakiyodalamabiro,  
Wakiyodalamabiro.

2. Pinyini ok thurwamwageno;  
Wakiyodala ma ok nen;  
Zayun e nyingedalaRuoth;  
Orienygiler ma nyakachieng`,  
Orienygiler ma nyakachieng`.

3. Dalamaber mar morgikuwe;  
Karahwachandruokongechuth;  
Da an gibuombwinyokoro,  
Daringimond` ayuekanyo,  
Daringimond` ayuekanyo.

4. Chunya, kuwemos! Ruothong`eyo,  
Ndalo ma iniyudyueyo;  
E pinykamond` atimchikne,  
Ka pod aritondalono,  
Ka pod aritondalono.

## When peace like a river

When peace like a river  
Attendeth my way  
When sorrows like sea billows roll  
Whatever my lot  
You have taught me to say

It is well with my soul  
It is well  
It is well with my soul

But Lord its for Thee  
For Thy coming we wait  
The sky not the grave is our goal  
Oh trump of the angel!  
Oh voice of the Lord!  
Blessed hope  
Blessed rest of my soul!

You are the Rock  
On which I stand  
By Your grace it is well  
My hope is sure  
In Christ my savior

## Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

1. Guide me, O Thou great \*Jehovah,  
Pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but Thou art mighty,  
Hold me with Thy powerful hand.  
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven,  
Feed me till I want no more;  
Feed me till I want no more.

2. Open now the crystal fountain,  
Whence the healing stream doth flow;  
Let the fire and cloudy pillar  
Lead me all my journey through.  
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,  
Be Thou still my Strength and Shield;  
Be Thou still my Strength and Shield.

3. Lord, I trust Thy mighty power,  
Wondrous are Thy works of old;  
Thou deliver'st Thine from thralldom,  
Who for naught themselves had sold:  
Thou didst conquer, Thou didst conquer  
Sin and Satan and the grave,  
Sin and Satan and the grave.

4. When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
Bid my anxious fears subside;  
Death of death and hell's Destruction,  
Land me safe on Canaan's side.  
Songs of praises, songs of praises,  
I will ever give to Thee;  
I will ever give to Thee.

## 275. AgenoWanarom

1. Agenowanarom e polo, kachan-  
druok me pinyrumo;  
Kaaganosigana mar wuodha e  
dhonammogwedhmaler.

E dhowathmarieny, dhonamdha-  
bu,  
E dalaWuonwa e pinyino mar mor.  
Agenowanarom, agenowanarom,  
Kwasidhoosimblocho e polo.

2. Agenowanarom e polo, E  
tiendyadhngimamaber;  
Agenowanapakjawarwa; kuom-  
ng`wuono mar warowa.

3. Agenowanarom e polo, kwaluo-  
rokomduong` Nyasaye;  
Agenobedogijomowar, kwapakoh-  
er-aJawar.

4. Agenowanarom e polo, katicna  
me pinyrumo;  
Agenowanamosregimor, E wath-  
marienymochwere.

## Does Jesus care

Does Jesus care when my heart is pained  
Too deeply for mirth or song,  
As the burdens press, and the cares distress,  
And the way grows weary and long?

Oh, yes, He cares, I know He cares,  
His heart is touched with my grief;  
When the days are weary, the long nights  
dreary,  
I know my Savior cares.

Does Jesus care when my way is dark  
With a nameless dread and fear?

As the daylight fades into deep night shades,  
Does He care enough to be near?  
Does Jesus care when I've tried and failed  
To resist some temptation strong;  
When for my deep grief there is no relief,  
Though my tears flow all the night long?

Does Jesus care when I've said "goodbye"  
To the dearest on earth to me,  
And my sad heart aches till it nearly breaks-  
Is it aught to Him? Does He see?

