

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR COFFHA

# COFFHASCOPE

OCTOBER 2022, ISSUE 4 - VOL 6

"A light from our household is gone, a voice we love is stilled. A place is vacant in our hearts that never can be filled"



Dame Pharm

# Ngozi Obikili

24 January 1965 - 12 October 2022

# From the Editor's Desk



I was just unpacking the last of my vacation boxes when my phone rang at about 10 pm on that fateful October 12, 2022, and all hell broke loose, sleep has been murdered, peace shattered and what was this devastating news; it was the death of our dear sister Ngozi Obikili. How can that be? Too many questions without answers but really how could this be? How can Ngozi pass on? Was she sick? Was she involved in an accident? These were the questions on everybody's lips.

It suddenly dawned us that it was true and we just had to embrace the tragic news, as sad as it was/is. Our Dame Pharm Ngozi Stella Obikili has translated to glory. Such is the finality of death. The painful reality is that you don't know the time, you don't know how but it definitely will happen and it does not take permission from anybody. It is a lesson that we all must

remember to learn that no one is assured of tomorrow.

COFFHA was still on celebration mood following her successful 6th investiture and fundraising ceremony in June and nothing prepared us for the sudden loss of any member let alone the standing Vice President, who was so full of life, so full of promise and who seemingly had so many years ahead of her; but you know what, only God knows tomorrow. We mourn our sister Ngozi and we promise as a family to help carry on her legacy. In alignment with this promise, COFFHA will be initiating a foundation in her name. The main



object for this Foundation is to enable us to reach out to those she left behind as well as reach out to other children who lost their parents untimely and probably would be in need of help. We will be calling on you, her friends and well-wishers again to join us in this mission so that the memory of our sister will continue to live on and so she will continue her humanitarian work even after her death.

For those of us still alive, here is some advice from a Coffhite, Lady Uche Obi “we've got to take things easy as nothing lasts forever. **Not beauty, not brilliance, not sense, not health, not even wealth, not position.** Let's live our lives for the betterment of humanity and society.

To our incredible sister, friend and woman of worth, Dame Pharm Ngozi Obikili we say Adieu and fare thee well.



# An “iroko” Cut Down In Its Prime



NG, my Vice President where do you begin to write this eulogy? How can I construct a sentence that will adequately express the shock and pain that your passing has brought to me?

When the news of your death came the first impulse was to go into denial and dismiss it with a wave of the hand because it just was not possible not after the conversation you and I had about the future of COFFHA and your lovely children.

I have not known you for as long as other members of COFFHA but within the few years of my relationship with you and as my next-in-command, you have left memories that will not be fading away so soon.

You exuded so much energy, promise and appeal that we were all looking forward to celebrating you at a higher level of corporate governance but what do we know?

Your philosophy in life was quite inspiring. You believed that “the price for greatness is responsibility” and you took yours with much conscientiousness and tenacity; never wanting to fail.

You believed in God and had great faith in Him but very practical in your spirituality This was you talking in one of our many discourses: “in everything in life, there are both the spiritual aspect (God working for and devil working against) and the physical aspect. Devil is connected to the spiritual and must be uprooted while you deal with the physical aspect. So.....we cannot ignore the devil. We must pray against him while doing the right things”.

# Tripout

Memories. When I think of you I will remember many times we would talk through the night about some of your aspirations and you would end up asking for your favourite food telling me that Lota, your friend and confidant had finished the last portion and we would laugh. You lavishly celebrated other people's wins and achievements with glowing words and with great joy. I remember when I was listed as one of the 50 most powerful women in marketing and PR this was your comment and I quote:

“Presido!!!! Beautiful and amazing You keep moving and winning!!! The power of inspiration in you is truly amazing. Keep the flag flying” Well done !

Such love, such generosity of spirit! Oh my NG you definitely had the gift of the garb.

Funny we disagreed on so many things but it didn't matter and it was not obvious because no matter how much we were on opposite sides on a topic we both cared and respected each other enough to agree to disagree. This is one quality I think is hard to find these days because people try to tear themselves apart for the smallest of differences.

I will not forget your encouraging counsels in the day to day running of COFFHA and you were an anchor that helped me navigate my way in COFFHA having been there much longer than





myself. I was eagerly looking forward to handing over to you next year. Ngozi why now?

NG you had a passion for life. You made many friends and their stories and pictures of you and the lives that you touched are testaments of your character.

I will try and end this eulogy NG by telling you how I will remember you: not for your fashion or kilt but for your compassion for others and your smiling eyes! You always had a smile and a hug!

In the words of May Fenn; “death is not the end, for love goes on; the evidence will remain long after you have gone. The flowers that you planted will blossom without end. The tree may be cut down but the stump shall bring forth fresh leaves and they will blossom again never to be cut down.

Adieu, my Woman of Worth and Fare thee well!

- *Nkechi Ali-Balogun*  
**PRESIDENT COFFHA**

# Tribute To Dame Ngozi Obikili (Forever Priceless)



The memories come, sometimes fleeting and other times enduring. Wednesday the 12th of October 2022 was a day like any other, until it wasn't. When the call came through for me to rush to your bedside at the hospital, I thought it was a huge joke and I was so confused. I saw you lying on that hospital bed looking heaven-wards, beautiful as you slept on. Were it not for the fact that you could not respond to me calling your name repeatedly and your body was cold, I would have believed you were sleeping.

It is still unbelievable, shocking, devastating and tragic that you have left us. You had such an infectious smile and you were the embodiment of professionalism, charm, vivacity, effervescence, resilience and a go-getter spirit. Whatever you set your mind on, you worked hard to get. You were truly an achiever

par excellence.

Ngo my Diva as I fondly called you - like a treasured baby sister, very dependable and reliable. A very crucial attribute I admired so much in you was your confidence. Nothing and no one could put you down. Multi-talented, brilliant and articulate, you were never daunted by any challenge.

While we worked together in the Nigerian Ports Authority you maintained a similar tone of excellence, winning international maritime awards and conquering new frontiers. Though you had a background in pharmacy, you operated successfully outside your core discipline with ease. I can still hear you calling me "auntie mee", "my madam", "my boss" and wanting



# Tribute

to fill me in on all the happenings in the office and beyond. My Cheerleader is gone. O Death, where is thy sting?

As a mother and a widow, you were committed to your family and went the extra mile to ensure your children had the best education and things that life has to offer. God blessed you with



brilliant children whom you taught well and ensured they were motivated to aspire to greater heights. In your daughter Lota, I can see all of your qualities and the strength she has shown through this period would make it seem as though you prepared her for a time like this.

Your commitment extended beyond your family to your immediate community and the Church. You contributed to the success of various associations, - Our Savior's Church, and your home church in your Diocese where you were conferred with the title, Dame of the Anglican Church.

Ngo our Diva you were also the Vice President of our association, Committee of Friends For Humanity (COFFHA). We had looked forward to having you as President because you would have done an excellent job. You had great plans for COFFHA and contributed so much to its success. I am sure I speak for all of our members when I say we will miss you so much.

You meant so much to many people and touched all of our lives in different ways. As a born event planner, when you organized my retirement party, you made sure it was a blast and



people wondered how you pulled off such a successful event.

Though your dreams and aspirations have come to an end it is undeniable that you lived such a meaningful life and today, the world celebrates you even in death. Quoting 2 Timothy 4:6-8, " I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness which the Lord, the righteous judge awards me on the Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing".

I love and miss you my dear sister, till we meet again in Heaven. May your beautiful soul rest in perfect peace. Amen

*- Chief Carolyn Akum Ufere*

# Tribute To A Woman Of Grace



For weeks I have tried to summon the courage to do this very task but never had, but to the glory of God, I am putting up something which will attempt to represent who this icon was. She was probably one of the best corporate women to hit the Nigerian social scene.

Those who knew Ngozi will attest that she was pound for pound. A very dynamic lady. She was an all-round personality. A mother per excellence. Excelled in the corporate world as well as in the social scene. She was passionate about everything she did. Ngozi was a Dame but not the kind to back away from a fight. She was a star.

Her live music was so melodious, still a string snapped, a shock note pierced the quiet. Without warning Dame Ngozi Obikili withdrew. Farewell my lil sister. Love you more in death.....

*- Chief Christy Ray-okoye*

# A Rare Gem Is Gone



Dame ! Pharm Gozai!!! That's how I used to address you. It's so difficult to believe that you are no more. Who could have ever imagined that you will be called home so soon when your star has just begun to shine brighter and many of us have started to see you rising up to higher leadership roles in the larger society. Your brilliance and accomplishments at a relatively young age speak volumes of your great potentials. No wonder the Nigerian Ports Authority, your workplace, did not hesitate to move you up to the position of General Manager, Planning and Corporate Strategy.

You were such a warm and lovely sister, so full of life and positive ideas. There were no dull moments around you and your charisma and general disposition were veritable tools for diffusing tension whenever they reared up their heads. Despite your very busy schedules, you discharged your duties well as Vice President of COFFHA. Your service and sacrifices will be appreciated for a long time. You were in the business of saving lives ,who would have thought your life would be so short. We will surely miss you. I feel for your young Children whom you have cared very much for after the death of your husband Dr Davis ; family and close Friends. I pray that God will grant them the fortitude to bear this irreparable loss.  
Adieu Dame Pharm Ngozi Obikili.

*- Chief Edith Mike-Ejesie.*

# A Tribute To A Beautiful Sister And Friend



NGO BABE as I fondly call you....NGO D DIVA!!!!

What happened!! It is still a burning question in my mind. We were set to celebrate you at the October General Meeting of the Committee of friends for Humanity, (Coffah) after your well deserved promotion to the enviable position of the General Manager of planning and corporate strategy .....

You were the sitting Vice President of our Noble association COFFHA.

We were sisters and friends and that was what made us thick.....

It was such a RUDE SHOCK!!!!And am yet to absorb it....

WHAT IS LIFE??? I think I am coming to terms now with the WISDOM behind Shakespeare's definition of life in "Macbeth", that

“life is like a walking shadow , a poor player that struts and frets it's hour upon the stage and then it's heard no more....It's like a tale told by an idiot full of sound and fury signifying nothing....”

Death !!O Death!!, where is your STING????

We take solace in the fact that you knew Jesus Christ and you worked for him . We will not cry as though we have no hope, we take comfort in the fact that we shall meet again;

“TO LIVE IN THE MINDS OF THOSE YOU LOVE IS NOT TO DIE.....”

We will Miss you, COFFHA will miss you.....I pray for the children you left behind, that God who is the father of orphans will come to their Aid. He will protect, guide and guard them in the mighty name of Jesus ..... Eternal Rest Grant unto Ngozi stella Obikili and let perpetual light shine upon HER May HER soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the Mercy of God, Rest In Peace....Amen.

Adieu NGO BABE, our very own DIVA.....

- Chief Hetty Davis - Egbai

# Tribute To An Amazing Friend



Writing this tribute is the most difficult thing to do. An Iroko tree has indeed fallen, a true friend, my prayer partner. I still didn't believe that my Ngo Diva is gone, I'm still lost on the sudden death of my dear friend, who I spoke with on Wednesday morning, full of life before she left to work, just to be told the following morning on Thursday that she is dead.

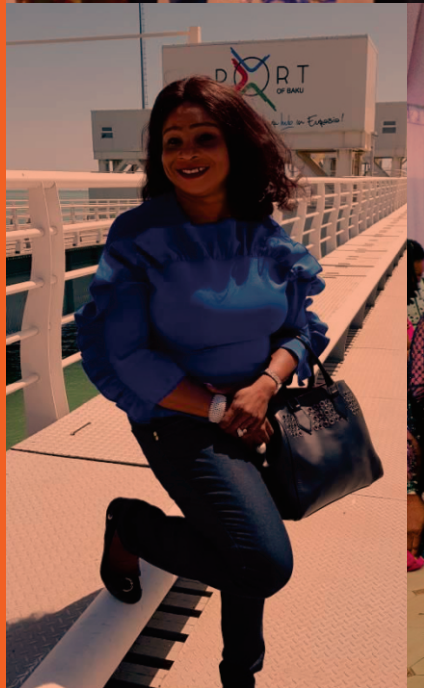
“Tears fall freely over the death of my friend. Weeping for eternity would not convey the depths of my feelings of loss”  
Oh death! Where is your sting? Oh grave where is your victory. Ngo, my eloquent stallion, my beautiful sister, inside

and out, was a wonderful friend to me, my prayer partner, my confidant. My friend was loving and real, very industrious, active and always happy. Heaven has indeed gained an Angel. She was a wonderful mother to her six children and laid a strong foundation for them. The many people who love her will watch over her children as she is, and make sure that they have a great life, full of her values and wishes. Ngo my true friend is never truly gone. Her spirit lives on in my memory. Saying goodbye isn't for me, Instead, I will say that I look forward to seeing my friend again.

- *Gloria Okeke*

# Photo Speaks









# Tribute To A Woman Full Of Zeal And Life

It's with a deep sense of utter pain and loss that I pen down this tribute to you, Ngoo Bekee as I fondly call you. I am yet to come to terms with your exit.....it was so sudden, so unexpected and quite unbelievable!!!

Ngoo Bekee, you came, you lived, you loved and you left your sweet fragrance everywhere that will never stop speaking of you to the glory of God. Your earthly sojourn was so fulfilling, exemplary, passionate, kind, energetic, purposeful..... In all of this, the vacuum that your demise has created for your loved ones will be extremely difficult to fill. May the Good Lord grant us the fortitude to bear the irreparable loss.

I am comforted in the fact that you lived your life for Christ. A true soldier you were and I know you will be dancing and worshipping with the host of Angels now. Oh death where is thine sting? Ngoo Bekee, you are truly missed by all of us @ Committee of Friends for Humanity.

My earnest thoughts are with your family and especially your young children and I pray that Almighty God will smoothen out their path,guide, provide and defend them.

Sleep on, beloved until we meet to part no more. Rest in peace Dame Ngozi Obikili.  
Adieu Ngoo Bekee!

- *Ijeoma Atti-Anyeri*



# For Thou Art Light Dear NG Babe!

"A true friend is never truly gone. Their spirit lives on in the memories of those who loved them." Amy Hoover

You came with so much joy and laughter  
You came with cheerfulness and energy  
Your brilliance shone through like a Diamond  
Your audience you always held sway

You brought light into every room  
You left everyone with a good feeling  
Your words were filled with wisdom  
Your words were backed by action



You loved to hold the hands  
of others  
You built chains that held many together  
Your love for others was genuine  
Your love for life even bigger  
  
You were positive and you were passionate  
You could hold the winds with hands  
Your passion for people and humanity was high  
Your love of God was strong like a rock  
  
You brought light so great to the world  
You are gone yet that light remains



Your love and laughter will be with us

Your fire and flame we hold as memory!

Go Thee well Dame Lady Ngozi Obikili

Go thee well my dear friend and sister NG Babe, until we meet in eternity!!

- Lady Chizor Malise

# Our NG fashionista Goes Home in style



The sudden death of Dame Ngozi Obikili left a big vacuum in the history of our association Coffha

I and my late husband Engr Ike Obi had a fantastic relationship with NGO and her dear late husband Davies who believed so much in my success. It was not surprising that when I invited NG into Coffha her husband readily encouraged her to join us.

Ngo as we celebrate your departure from this world with its inevitable challenges, we thank God for your passionate and exuberant life, your wonderful very brilliant children and the Obikili/Anyachebelu families.

NGO Diva was a unique woman endowed with beauty and rare intelligence, very versatile, proactive, focused and determined to succeed against all odds.

A great woman of substance and an achiever. She was a peoples person and builds lasting relationships easily.

My entire family join your numerous admirers, well wishers and our esteemed Women of Substance and Worth in Coffha to bid you farewell.

May your noble and gentle soul rest in perfect peace. Amen!!

*- Lady Uchenna Ifeoma Obi*

# Tribute To My Beloved



I find it extremely difficult putting pen to paper eulogizing my beloved NGO BABE as I fondly called her, my sister from another mother. NGO babe, your death has left me CHRISTIE WAY-WAY devastated!!

On that fateful day, around 10pm, when Mr Sam Anele( Ngoo's long serving staff)called me and bemoaned, “Aunty Christie, I don't know what is happening to my madam”, I quickly left my house and rushed to the hospital. Seeing her lying on the bed with a little smile on her face, I could not and did not believe that she was dead. We held a vigil and prayed for over 2 hours calling on her to wake up but she did not. Alas!, the unbelievable had happened, she was no more!!

DEATH, how heartless can you be? You know no bounds. But, I know one thing for sure, death, did not defeat our Ngo babe. She has been LIFTED UP TO HEAVEN, SHAME UNTO YOU DEATH. I know that death is

definitely not the end but the beginning of a new life in Christ.

I am comforted because Ngoo knew and served God with all her heart. She had a forgiving spirit; was always willing to believe and see the best in others .

NGO BABE, I Love you because you were brave and intelligent, very versatile, proactive, focused, a great woman of substance and an achiever. You were an embodiment of happiness, love, peace, determination ,generosity and courage.

# Tribute

It is said that the world is a stage where one plays his or her part, NGO BABE YOU PLAYED YOUR PART EXCELLENTLY WELL TO THE GLORY OF GOD!

DEATH being an inevitable end must come when it will come. Hence I pray that Our Good Lord will grant us the fortitude to bear the great loss.

Good-bye my darling sister.

I MISS YOU!

YOU ARE UNFORGETTABLE!!

Loads of love,



- Lady Christie Inwazulike.

# Tribute To My CO



My Co, I am yet to come to terms with your passing.

My Co. You were many things to many people; to me you were my sister, my friend and my co-wife.

After the death of your husband, you told my husband you will be sharing him with me! And we became co-wives!

We enjoyed precious moments and shared laughter with “our husband” until the Lord called him home. I remember how fervently you prayed that God should not make you a widow a “second time”. But God knows best.

You were always so conscientious and prudent, reminding me that we still have children in school abroad. You were really a co-wife in truth and indeed! I am consoled knowing you are with the Lord.

Keep resting in peace till we meet again my co-wife.

*- Ngosi Kay Okoro*





**COFFHA**

## **HELPING HANDS INITIATIVE**

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A Season of Sacrificial Giving  
A New Resolve to give  
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Hands Initiative**

**Make your N1000 donation or more to**

**CHHI, GTB 0626484551**

Visit: [www.coffha.org](http://www.coffha.org)

*With a Deep sense of loss but with gratitude to God almighty, we, the Committee of Friends for Humanity announce the passing away of our Vice President, friend, wife and mother;*



*"Do not stand at my grave and weep, I am not there, I do not sleep. I am a thousand winds that blow. I am the diamond's glint on snow. I am the sunlight on ripened grain. I am the gentle autumn's rain. Do not stand at my grave and cry, I am not there, I did not die".*

*- Clare Harner*

# Dame Pharm Ngozi Obikili

*24 January 1965 - 12 October 2022*

## Funeral Arrangements

**WEDNESDAY, 14TH DECEMBER 2022 | 4:00PM**

Service of Songs And Night of Tributes at  
Harbour Point, No 4 Willmot Point Road,  
Off Ahmadu Bello Way, VI, Lagos.

**THURSDAY, 15TH DECEMBER 2022 | 9:AM**

Commendation Service At Our Saviours Church,  
TBS, Lagos.

**FRIDAY, 13TH JANUARY 2023 | 4:30PM**

Christian Wake Keep At The Obikili's  
Residence Agulu.

**SATURDAY, 14TH JANUARY 2023 | 10:30AM**

Funeral Service At St. Michael's And All Angels  
Anglican Church Agulu.

Interment follows immediately at Late Dr. Sir Davies  
Obi Obikili's Family Compound Amaezike Village,  
Agulu, Anaocha Lga, Anambra State.

## Committee of Friends for Humanity:

Nkechi Ali-Balogun. Carol Ufere. Gloria Ita-Ikpeme.  
Edith Mike-Ejezie. Christy Ray Okoye. Joy Chiori.  
Ijeoma Otti-Onyeri. Prisca Nwadialo. Hetty Davies-Egbai.

Ngozi Kay Okoro. Uche Obi. Tina Igbokwe. Obiageli Anubi.  
Nkechi Igogori. Nweze Florence. Chizor Malize.  
Chizoba Ezeamama. Gloria Okeke. Maria Onyia



We bring hope and social justice where the less privileged can  
live in dignity and security