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A TRIBUTE TO THE AMAZON, MY MOTHER, MAMA AIZE OBAYAN

On behalf of my wife, Mrs. Chinwe Nnamdi-Ekeanyanwu, my three children that call you Big Mummy and the entire Ekeanyanwu family that knew what you meant to me, I refuse to say goodbye. Mama Aize Obayan cannot die! You live in me and the lives of many others that you have touched in very unique ways.

My heart bleeds! I am deeply saddened and devastated even when I know you are with God your Maker. My wife and children weep uncontrollably at this devastating and irreparable loss. Words fail me. How could this happen? Why you? You didn't deserve to go now! You have served and served well but you never said you were tired! Why now?

Yes, I can ask all the questions but I can never play God, who knows the end from the beginning. I am only expressing my grief at the loss of a dear mother, mentor, teacher, friend, and MY DESTINY HELPER. You adopted me into your family as a son and made me family. My wife became a daughter to you and my children became your grandchildren. Our birthdays were marked and celebrated by you. My children's first books and toys were bought by you. You never failed to shower us gifts. You never refused me anything that was within your power to give! Anything that concerns me was priority for you. I was the envy of many because of your motherly love that was obvious!! When I was down, you were there to pick me up. You stood by me without reservation and taught me the true meaning of love, family and loyalty. For you, family is not extended but extensive, weaving many platforms and connecting to many stables. You also showed me God in Love and the true meaning of worship and service. Your devotion to GOD was unparalleled. Anyone that knows you and me know I just lost a mother but Heaven just gained soul.

Words fail me. My heart bleeds. But in all of these, I promise you never to lose Faith. You will "not approve" that! I am consoled that you lived well and served God to the end. Dear Mummy, good night and sleep well. Though we grieve, God alone knows why you left earlier than anticipated. We had plans even to the day you left. Now, I have to see some through by His Helps, others I will never fulfill anymore because they mean nothing without you. You prayed for me, my wife and family. You blessed me so well on my birthday on January 9, 2019 as if you knew that was the last you will wish me happy birthday in person. I was used to you pouring your heart out to me always that I never suspected anything.

We are proud of you and the life you lived. We now take solace in the fact that you lived well and know where you are going to spend your eternity. Death cannot stop or change that! The transition of your beloved husband to glory taught me a life lesson: It is not how long but how well! You have again confirmed that. I promise to uphold the ideals you taught me and that defined you as long as I live. I will also forever bless your memory. God will never abandon your children; He is too faithful to fail. As you would always tell me no matter the circumstances, all will be well!

Rest well Mummy until we meet in the Bosom of our Lord Jesus.

Ekeanyanwu, Nnamdi Tobechukwu, Ph.D.

Your Beloved Son!