CMUL Physical Therapy Alumni USA, Inc.

Alumni News > Professor Gabriel Odia Passes On to Glory on Monday, December 7, 2015



Please Pay Tribute to Professor Odia Online at: **http://profodia.muchloved.com**

Dear Colleagues,

With heavy hearts, but gratitude to God for a life well spent, we announce the passing to eternal glory of Professor Gabriel Ikhidero Odia, the Pioneer Head, and Founder of the Physiotherapy Program at the College of Medicine, University of Lagos. Professor Odia passed on Monday, December 7, 2015.

Professor Gabriel Ikhidero Odia was born on the 30th April, 1934. He attended St. Peters Primary School Benin City, (1941-1945) and Igbobi College (1946-1951). He was a graduate of the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Canada and he served in various professional and academic positions at the University College Hospital, Ibadan, and the College of Medicine, University of Lagos and Lagos University Teaching Hospital where he was an Honorary Consultant Physiotherapist. He pioneered the physiotherapy training at the College of Medicine, University of Lagos.

Professor Odia belongs to several professional bodies including Member, Canadian Physiotherapy Association, Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (Great Britain); Member Society for the Rehabilitation of the Disabled, Member International Society of Prosthetics and Orthotics, and past Chairman of the Nigerian Society of Physiotherapy.

He is also a Trustee of the Spinal Cord Injuries Association of Nigeria. A keen sportsman and professional Consultant in Sports Medicine, Professor Odia has served in various capacities including Team Physiotherapist, Nigeria Contingent to the 3rd All African Games, Algiers, Moscow Olympics, 4th All African Games, Nairobi, and the Seoul Olympics. He was Secretary, 1980 Africa Cup of Nations Medical Sub-Committee. He is also a founding member of the Sports Medicine Association of Nigeria. He has published many professional and research papers in both National and International Journals. Professor Odia is married with children. He voluntarily retired from the services of the College of Medicine and Lagos University Teaching Hospital in April, 1992 after 35 years of meritorious service.

The Federal Government appointed him as the Pioneer Chairman, Medical Rehabilitation Therapists Board of Nigeria in December 2000, a position he held till 2009.

Pa Odia, as we used to call him, will be greatly missed. But his legacy lives on.

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Funeral arrangements:

THURSDAY 7th January, 2016:

- 12pm -2pm: Commendation service & Tributes session (Old Great Hall, College of Medicine, University of Lagos, Idi Araba)
- 6pm - 8pm: Christian wake keep (Chapel of the Healing Cross, Opposite LUTH/CMUL, Idi Araba, Lagos
- 10pm - dawn: Lying in state in his compound (17 Femi Ayantuga Crescent, Off Adelabu street, (by Fountain Height schools), Surulere.

FRIDAY 8th January, 2016:

- 8am-9am: Brief lying in state / Academic procession (Old Great Hall, College of Medicine, University of Lagos
- 9.30am -10.30am: Brief lying in state (Chapel of the Healing Cross, Opposite LUTH/CMUL, Idi Araba
- 11am: Funeral service (Chapel of the Healing Cross, Opposite LUTH/CMUL, Idi Araba
- Interment at the Ikoyi Cemetary
- Reception follows at the Church Hall of St Saviour's Church, Tafawa Balewa Square, Lagos Island.

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Published
05:07:00 08.12.2015