

Dearest Egbon-E,

I have tried writing this severally, this has to be the most difficult thing I have ever had to write. It still feels like a bad dream. People have to know the amazing creature you were.

The most disheartening news I ever heard in my life was that of your passing. I sit back reminiscing on all the times we spoke days and weeks leading to the day you left us, You left no clues. You were the most bubbly, caring and fun-loving person I ever met. In all of this, I am glad to have had you in my life. You have been my Uncle all my life, but you became a friend and confidant 3 years ago. I remember the first personal phone call we had after I passed my final exams. You were so proud, so so proud. We spoke about how Grandpa wanted it, and you said he would be proud of me. You gave me career progression guidance that I am currently pursuing, not ever realizing I would have to make you proud the same way. You were a great cheerleader. You never failed to ask me what my plans were, you encouraged me when I felt down. You were so supportive of me and my sisters. We wrote down my career plans together, we weighed my options, we spoke about boys and you gave your advice as usual. You never failed to put me on the hot seat whenever we spoke, you always wanted to know how I was doing, how I was I coping. You ended every conversation with "your aunt and I are always here for you, call us if you need anything" then I will say "I am a big girl, I got this". You would laugh and say yes Big Dr Oyin'.

Nobody calls me Dr Oyin except you so that means I won't hear that anymore.

You and Aunty have always been a huge blessing to me, and I would forever be grateful.

I pray for you everyday.

I pray for Aunty Peju, Toniloba and Toluwani everyday.

I pray for Grandma everyday.

I pray for your Sisters everyday.

I pray for your friends and loved ones who stood close through it all.

I love you whole heartedly and will continue to love you wholly.

This is so hard to bear, we all are so broken right now but I pray God's Grace and strength envelope us all and fill up the void you have left.

We love and miss you Egbon-e but God loves you most and we are glad you're in a better place.

I tell my mum, we have 2 Angels in heaven now (You and GrandPa) watching over us.

This is not what we wanted, but who are we to question God.

Rest in bosom of the Lord my dearest Egbon-e.

Your Niece,

Dr Oyin (just like you called me)