



Dr. Godfrey Ibom

November 10, 1938 - September 16, 2020

Dr. Godfrey Ibom died on September 16, 2020. Dr. Ibom was born in Ikot Ekpene, Nigeria to Oposi Okodiyah and Udofa Ekpenyong Abatepe Ibom and was orphaned at a young age. After being identified by his teachers as possessing exceptional intellectual skills, he attended high school at King's College in Lagos, Nigeria. He then began a new life in the United States. In 1952, he traveled on the African Glen to New York, New York with 1 suit case and 3 trunk boxes to begin college. He attended the University of Oregon, earning a Bachelor's of Science degree in physics. He then obtained a Master's degree in mathematics from Atlanta University, followed by a Ph.D. at The Ohio State University. He worked various jobs to finance his undergraduate and graduate education, such as working at a pea factory. While working at a pea factory in Oregon, he was refused entry at a restaurant because of his skin color. Unwavering, he initiated legal action, which led to the first settlement under a new Oregon Civil Rights Law and resulted in a front page cover in The Oregonian in 1954. He donated the settlement to charity. Due to the social environment at the time, he struggled to find work after college, even with a degree in physics and had to work as a bus driver to finance a portion of his graduate education. After finishing his Ph.D., Dr. Ibom worked as a Professor of Statistics at numerous universities in the Midwest. He was beloved by his students, even winning Teacher of the Year multiple times. He mentored countless number of students.

Dr. Ibom married the love of his life, Kathleen Hoffman Ibom in 1976.

Survivors include his three children; Dr. Valerie (Andre) Ibom Reed of Houston, Texas, Erik (Giovanna) Tsereste Ibom of Ypsilanti, Michigan, and Tyler (Merlin) Kabaki Obuma-Abasi Ibom of Columbus, Ohio; and two grandchildren, Alexandria Itoro-Adiaha Reed of Houston, Texas and Evander Alberto TenK Ibom of Ypsilanti, Michigan. His wife, parents, and siblings preceded him in death. Dr. Ibom was known for his smile that brightened the room, charming personality, and commitment to his family. He instilled in his children from an early age the value of an education, hard work, and discipline and will be dearly missed. We would like to extend our most sincere gratitude to the outstanding care he received from Creekside at the Village, Zusman Hospice, Dr. Gina Love-Walker, and Amy Lo.

A memorial service will be held at 2 PM on October 3, 2020 at Rutherford-Corbin Funeral Home, 515 High St., Worthington, Ohio 43085.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

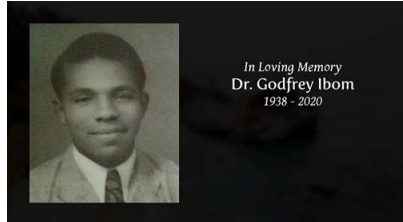
OCT 3. 2:00 PM (ET)

Rutherford-Corbin Funeral Home
515 High Street
Worthington, OH 43085
(614) 885-4006
info@rutherfordfuneralhome.com
<https://www.rutherfordfuneralhomes.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Rutherford Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Dr. Godfrey Ibom*



Rutherford Funeral Homes - September 28, 2020 at 02:22 PM

DB

“ *My teacher gave me a car. He taught me statistics at Franklin University. The car was a 1971 Mercury Cougar convertible.*



Danny Birt - November 24, 2024 at 09:51 PM

AB

“ *Angelique Burnside lit a candle in memory of Dr. Godfrey Ibom*



Angelique Burnside - March 23, 2023 at 09:43 PM



“ *Dr. Godfrey Ibom*

January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM

EZ

“ For some reason, I read the obituary of Dr.Ibom,, I did not know him, but after reading about him, I was very impressed with what an outstanding individual he was.
So capable, such a hard worker, so caring.
The Lord gave him a great deal of talent.
His family I know ,are very proud of his life.
I would have liked to have known him....
sincerely, Elisabeth Zehnder

Elisabeth Zehnder - November 03, 2020 at 09:12 PM

RF

“ Dr. Ibom, or Godfrey or just "Ibom" as he was known to us, was a good tennis buddy of my husband's back in the late 1970's and early 1980's. I think that Dr. Ibom and my husband (Jim Pinkston) met at the Tuttle Park tennis courts, and became friends. I met "Ibom" through my husband. He had a great smile and engaging personality. I think that "Ibom" and my husband drifted apart only because "Ibom" became so very involved with his family that there was less time left over for kibbitzing at the tennis courts. I was pleased to know him, and sad to hear of his passing. God bless and keep you all in the coming days and years, and forevermore. (Rev.) Phyllis Fetzer

Rev. Phyllis Fetzer - October 12, 2020 at 02:19 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Dr. Godfrey Ibom.



October 01, 2020 at 05:17 PM

JB

“ I was so sorry to see that Dr Ibom passed away. He was my college prof for many of my math courses -- I am not sure I could have made it through Quant. Methods II without his brilliant teaching style. His smile was one in a million and over the many years since the 1980's when I sat in his classes, I have quoted many of his sayings. Rest in peace Dr Ibom, you were one of a kind. J.Bradway
- Columbus OH

JILL BRADWAY - October 01, 2020 at 08:53 AM