

A TRIBUTE TO MY INCREDIBLE FATHER.

To the man who shaped me into the woman I am today.

You raised me as a child, not as a girl, free to explore and dream. Your guidance and support instilled in me the courage to be bold, strong, and invincible. You taught me to stand up for myself and fight for my rights, empowering me with the confidence to take on the world.

Your passion for education was contagious, and you invested so much in my learning, my legacy, encouraging me to pursue my passions and interests.

I cannot speedily forget your 'spelling bee' exercise at home while I was in primary school asking me to write jaw breaking words like Portmanteau, Portugal, lampoon, characteristics, philosophy etc. You taught me Latin phrases, their meanings, and importance in my artistic expressions. Each time I incorporate the phrases in my daily expressions, I'm always very proud of you, dad. Your love for knowledge and growth inspired me to continuously seek and discover. Yes, I did discover, and I'm still eager and hungry for more discoveries.

Beyond academics, you taught me the importance of activism, politics, and social justice. You instilled in me a sense of responsibility to fight for what is right and to make a positive impact on the world.

You invested in my campaigns as an undergraduate at the University of Ibadan. Twice, I contested, twice, you invested, twice I won the elections, and you were so proud of me.

I remember how liberal minded you were with everything you had. Your cars were for anybody and everybody. We drove them at will without any complaint by you. What a rare gem you were!

Dad, your influence has been profound, and I'm forever grateful for the values and principles you've instilled in me. Your selflessness, kindness, hard work, and generosity inspire me daily to be a better person.

However, I cannot brood over the fact that you had your flaws and spots. You were not perfect. None of us is. May God, in his infinite mercies, forgive you for your inadequacies and faults.

Thank you for being my rock, my mentor, hero, teacher, and my friend. I celebrate you and the incredible impact you've had on my life. I promise to continue making you proud and carrying on your legacy.

For all you did for me, "Ex ungue harculam", Dad. "I'm satisfied, perfectly satisfied".

Just the same way it was written of Nicolo Machiavelli on his epitaph: "Tanto nominee par eloquem". So, I write of you, dad, that of this great man, Senator M.A.E. Onunkun, OON, from a humble beginning, for all the impact he made, no praise is adequate.

Good night, dad, and continue to rest in peace until we meet to part no more.

Your Daughter

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