

In fact, words failed us, your children, to truly say how much we love you and how grateful we are to be nurtured by you. Succinctly, you an icon came to this world, laboured for us and humanity.

To many, you are an amazing teacher, awesome “ piano hand ”, administrator for excellence, a wonderful politician, a philanthropist, a lover of hard work and a friend of unequal kindness and care. But to us, you were a loving and caring father with many wonderful attributes.

You were a brilliant and intelligent man who exhibited these qualities in all ramifications in your lifetime. While at elementary stage, we learnt, you were exceptionally brilliant. During your working career, you were exceptional too. In politics, you were regarded a politician of high level of probity and fairness. The intelligence and dexterity you displayed in solving knotty political issues, made your political colleagues and admirers to give you the name “Baba wo gbo”.

You were, in fact, a celebrated linguistic who was vast in English, Latin and other languages. We will forever remember you for your handwriting and art of writing. What a wonderful human being who could recite from A to Z The Marchant of Venice, Julius Caesar and other literature books even at old age. You were an authority in world history and historical facts. Whenever you talked about WW11 and Adolf Hitler(The Fuhrer) people listened with rapt attention and admiration. Indeed, Baba wo gbo ooo.

Do we say you were a building construction expert? Yes, you were indeed. All your buildings, which can stand engineering test at anytime, were designed and personally supervised by you.

Baba, destined by Almighty God and through dint of hard work, was able to excel in many aspects of life.

1. He was the first to acquire formal education and built a house among his siblings
2. He came first throughout his elementary schooling and had a distinction in a Local Government course at the then University College, Morlete Ibadan.
3. First democratically elected distinguished senator of the National Assembly (Red chamber) of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (Ondo South)
4. First, as a senator from our areas to have a hand shake with the Queen Elizabeth of England at Buckingham Palace, during an official visit, Baba wo gbo ooo.
5. First to put up a story building with decking floor in the whole of defunct Okitipupa division.

Baba , you were a frugal , a dogged trader and money management expert. This informed your been buoyant throughout your lifetime.

Baba , we your children can never forget you. We battled and embarked on series of measures to prevent you from leaving us. Yet death came and took you away. You remain irreplaceable, thus we forever thank God for been nurtured by you. More importantly, we shall continue to **hoist** the banner of your good name and legacies.

May your noble soul continue to find solace in the bosom of the lord. IJN (Amen) .

John Ayodele Onunkun.