



Raphael O. Iluyomade

January 4, 1937 - November 12, 2020

Lt. Col Raphael Oyinlade Iluyomade, 83, beloved husband and best friend of Mrs. Solayide Iluyomade, passed away due to complications resulting from a Coronavirus infection on November 12, 2020. He is survived by: Mrs. Solayide Iluyomade (wife), Mr. Olawoyin Iluyomade (son), Mrs. Folashade Adeduro (daughter), Mr. Olusegun Iluyomade (son), Mr. Olumide Iluyomade (son), Mr. Olusola Iluyomade (son), Mr. Ifedayo Iluyomade (son), and Miss Oreofe Iluyomade (daughter), and many loving grandchildren, brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews, and a vast extended family.

He was born to Solomon and Otuyiola Iluyomade on January 4, 1937 in Ondo, Nigeria where he went to school and despite great financial difficulties, ultimately completed his high school education. He shortly thereafter fell in love with the military life and joined the Nigerian Army – a choice that propelled him on a military path that encompassed duties in many parts of India – including stints as a marine commando leader of a Gurkha platoon, military academy tenures in Great Britain, and a career as commanding officer of Nigeria Army military forces during the Nigerian Civil War from 1967 to 1970. His distinguished leadership during the war led to a standing as a war hero and subsequent roles commanding major divisions of the Nigerian Army in military installations all over Nigeria including Ibadan, Aba, Port-Harcourt, Kaduna, and far-flung Yola culminating in his role as the Quartermaster General of the Nigerian Army after which he retired in 1977.

Lt. Col Raphael O. Iluyomade, our father, was many things to us. He was our superhero, a warrior and military officer to the core, a military historian (naturally), a gleeful storyteller (undoubtedly), a voracious reader – frequently caught furiously marking-up and underlining passages in books for quotes and anecdotes with which to decorate his storytelling, a technology gadget lover (regardless of his less-than-expert ability to use them), a supreme lover of dogs, and a tireless and bold adventurer. He was a God-fearing man with an ardent passion for music – with a vast collection of classical music - and a standing member of the church choir where he would constantly test the choir director with his penchant for carving out spontaneous and creative alternate harmonies.

Due to his boldness, vision, and willingness for sacrifice, in a short period of 30 years, we left the safety of our origins in Nigeria to build careers and comfortable lives in the US, Canada, and Great Britain. With immense courage, in 1996, he left everything he had known the first part of his life – a sterling military reputation and post-military business career - to begin from scratch in the USA for the sake of his children's future. Dad embodied values which today appear so out of fashion that they seem almost quaint- a steady Christian faith, decency, honesty, absolute selflessness, and a stoic resolve in the face of any adversity to fulfill his duty to his immediate and extended family - without praise or gratitude.

Dad, you have earned your eternal rest. You fought the good fight with unblemished dignity and your principles wholly intact. Now it is our turn to try and be worthy of your sacrifice by following your example - to be decent in life, to care for family and think of others first, to give back to our adopted and home countries which gave us everything you gave up- our sense of belonging, our livelihoods, our friendships, our memories and happy lives.

We love you Dad, and we will miss you terribly until we meet again.

-The Family

Appreciation

We would like to express our sincere gratitude all well-wishers and all the messages thus far received have been a heartwarming blessing our mom and to the entire family. We thank God for the gift of his life and the blessing of the time we spent with him.

Additional Information

Given the sensible limitations imposed by the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic, a funeral service will be held honoring Lt.Col Raphael O. Iluyomade on Saturday, January 16, 2021 at 11:00 am at 4308 Suitland Road, Suitland MD 20746. In accordance with State and CDC guidelines, the service will be severely restricted to immediate family only, however the funeral service will be livestreamed for extended family and all well-wishers. Rev. Canon Adetola Shabi will officiate the funeral service with subsequent burial at the Washington National Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

Cemetery Details

Washington National

4101 Suitland Rd
Suitland, MD

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 16. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

MARSHALL-MARCH FUNERAL HOME OF MD
4308 SUITLAND ROAD SUITLAND MARYLAND 20746
SUITLAND, MD 20746

Service

JAN 16. 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM (ET)

MARSHALL-MARCH FUNERAL HOME OF MD
4308 SUITLAND ROAD SUITLAND MARYLAND 20746
SUITLAND, MD 20746

Tribute Wall



“ *To View the Webcast of the Funeral for Raphael O. Iluyomade, Please Click the Link below.*



Marshall-March Funeral Homes - January 06, 2021 at 08:47 PM



“ *Raphael O. Iluyomade*

October 23, 2023 at 08:15 AM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with the family. Continue to rely on God and know that he hears your prayers, because he cares for you. Truly sorry for your loss.*

Evans family - January 07, 2021 at 04:02 AM



“ *Our condolences goes out to the family in this time of sorrow. May the support of family and friends be a source of strength and the God of comfort a refuge in your time of need. Truly sorry for your loss.*

Evans family - January 05, 2021 at 07:13 PM



“ We the March Family and Marshall-March Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.

Marshall-March Funeral Homes - January 04, 2021 at 05:42 PM