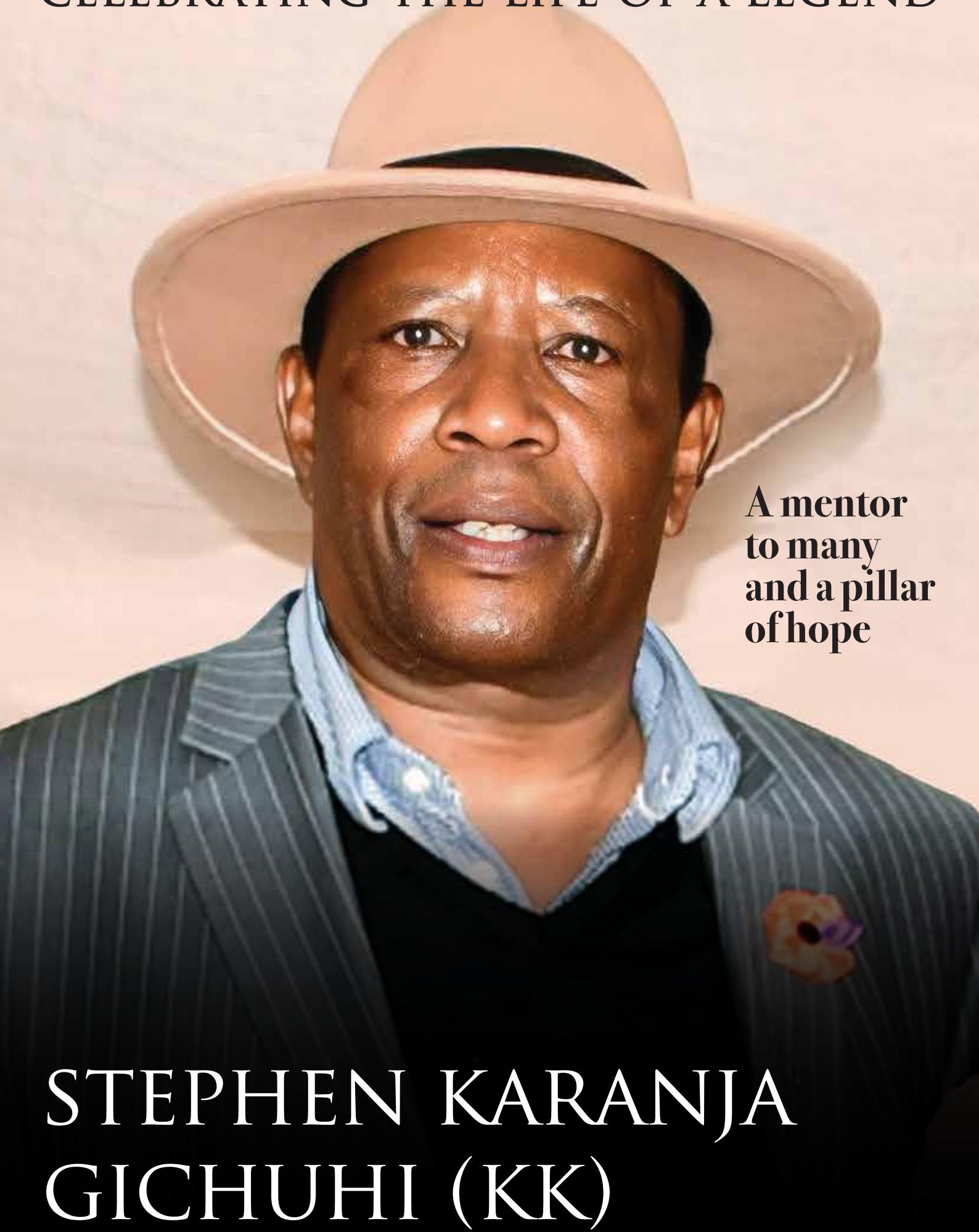


CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF A LEGEND



A mentor
to many
and a pillar
of hope

STEPHEN KARANJA
GICHUHI (KK)

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND TIMES OF

STEPHEN KARANJA GICHUHI (KK)

MEMORIAL SERVICE – 25TH MAY 2025

VENUE: PCEA KIKUYU TOWNSHIP

PROGRAM

2:30 PM – ARRIVAL AT PCEA KIKUYU TOWNSHIP

3:00 PM – PROCESSION INTO THE CHURCH

✓ OPENING PRAYER

✓ HYMN

✓ WELCOME BY PASTOR

✓ EULOGY

✓ HYMN

✓ TRIBUTES & SPEECHES

■ WIFE

■ CHILDREN

■ CUCU

■ GRANDCHILD

■ SIBLINGS

■ IN LAWS

■ NEPHEWS AND NIECES

■ FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS

✓ BIBLE READING

✓ SERMON

✓ OFFERING HYMN

✓ PRAYER FOR THE FAMILY

✓ ANNOUNCEMENTS

(INCLUDING DETAILS OF THE FUNERAL ON 27TH MAY)

✓ BENEDICTION

FUNERAL SERVICE – 27TH MAY 2025

VENUE: ONDIRI HOME

6:45 AM – ARRIVAL AT MONTEZUMA

7:00 AM – SHORT PRAYERS & BODY VIEWING

8:00 AM – DEPARTURE TO ONDIRI

10:30 AM – ARRIVAL & PROCESSION INTO THE CHURCH

✓ OPENING PRAYER

✓ HYMN

✓ EULOGY

✓ HYMN

✓ SELECTED TRIBUTES (FROM THE MEMORIAL)

✓ HYMN

✓ BIBLE READING

✓ SERMON

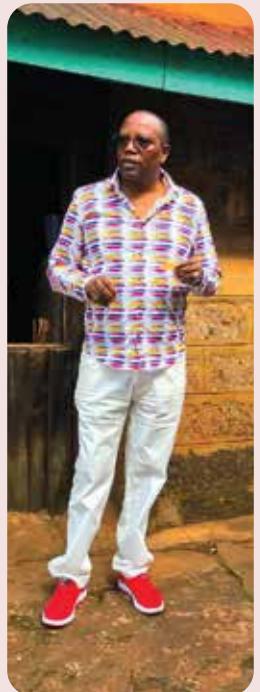
✓ OFFERING

✓ PRAYER FOR THE FAMILY

✓ ANNOUNCEMENTS AND VOTE OF THANKS

✓ BURIAL RITES AT THE GRAVESIDE

✓ MEAL SERVED



We were all privileged to have done life with KK in whatever capacity, what an honor he gave us to witness his infectious cheer, a good fight, a fight of courage, a fight of hope, a fight of a victor and today this DAY he lay hold of eternal life and joy.

What a legacy, what a selfless life he lived. I invite each of you to keep him alive in our hearts for through his presence, we have become better.





A LIFE GLORIOUSLY LIVED THE LIFE AND TIMES OF

STEPHEN KARANJA GICHIUHI (KK)

On 24th November 1958, in Kerigeti Farm, Nakuru County, a bright light came into this world — Stephen Karanja Gichuhi, affectionately known as KK. Born to the late Solomon Kamau Gichuhi and the late Esther Wanjiku, and stepson to Margaret Waithera Kamau of Ondiri, Kikuyu.

He was a brother to the late Peter Ndungu, the late Grishon Nguo, Joseph Njuguna, Mary Nyambura, Dorcas Ngendo, Jacinta Njeri, David Ndungu (South Africa), and Lucy Njambi (UK). A loving in-law to Vielinah Njeri, Grace Nyokabi, the late Roseline Mukami, Barongo Rukara, Bishop Peter Njenga, Mary Wanjiru, Neil Cameron.

He was son in law to the late Paul Kiema and Joyce Kiema. Brother in Law to Ann Hinga, Solomon kiema, Samson kiema, Betty Malonza, Henry kiema na Moses kiema. Judy karanja was the last born in the family.



Early Life

He started his early childhood life in Kerigeti Farm and later on the family relocated to Thika in 1963 where he used to assist the late father at his shop. In 1970 the family relocated and settled in Ondiri Farm Kikuyu.

Education and Early Years

KK's educational journey began in 1965 at Thika Primary School, later continuing at Mugomo-ini Primary, where he sat his CPE exams in 1973. He later joined Kikuyu Day High School for O-levels from 1974 to 1977 and later pursued A-level studies at Nairobi Polytechnic between 1978 and 1979 — a bright and curious mind, eager to grow and build his future.

Education and Early Years

KK's educational journey began in 1965 at Thika Primary School, later continuing at Mugomoini Primary, where he sat his CPS exams in 1973. He then joined Kikuyu Day High School for O-levels and pursued A-level studies at Nairobi Polytechnic between 1978 and 1979 — a bright and curious mind, eager to grow and build his future.

Rooted in Faith

Stephen was baptized at Thika Catholic Church in 1968 and continued his spiritual journey



through the years. When the family relocated to Ondiri he became a member of PCEA Ondiri. Later after becoming a family man they relocated to Kikuyu with his family and became a member of PCEA Kikuyu Township. KK lived out his faith in service and love. In 2022, he rededicated his life to Christ, a testament to his deepening spiritual conviction and humility.

A Loving Family Man

Stephen was the devoted husband to Judy Kaindi Karanja, with whom he built a beautiful life and family. Their union was solemnized on 4th August 1984 at PCEA Lenana High School and celebrated with a memorable reception at Alliance High School — a fitting venue for a man who valued family, unity, and joy.

Together, they were blessed with two children — Lyon Kamau (1985), now dearly departed, and Linda Wanjiku (1988), a daughter who brought pride and joy to his life. He was a proud father-in-law to Munge King'ori and a doting grandfather to Nathari Njeri Munge, who lit up his days. He was an In-law to Kingori na Njeri Munge.

A Passionate Professional

KK began his career as an untrained teacher at Kikuyu Township High School (1980–1983), before returning to farming — a pursuit that grounded him. In 1986, he followed his entrepreneurial spirit and founded the famous KK Butchery and Restaurant in Kikuyu, a place known far and wide for its exceptional meals, warm service, and the unmistakable personal touch that only KK could offer.

In 2014, he took over management of Lyon's Highlands Annex, located at CBD Ambassador, where he continued to serve the community with the same passion and excellence until his passing.

A Man of the People

KK was a social spirit — the life of every party, the warmest voice in the room, and the glue that held family together. Whether young or old, everyone who met KK walked away feeling seen, heard, and loved. He chaired the Gichuhi cousins' group, always rallying family around shared laughter, music, and memories.

A Legacy of Love and Laughter

KK's legacy is one that words can barely contain — a beautiful tapestry woven with kindness, humour, warmth, and boundless love. He was a doting grandfather whose face would light up at the sound of his grandchild's laughter. His deep affection for people extended even to animals, often seen chatting to his pets as if they were old friends. KK had an extraordinary ability to make others feel at ease — his charm, wit, and effortless humour could lift the heaviest of rooms. He was the heartbeat of every gathering, dancing with abandon and filling the air with laughter. But beyond the jovial spirit was a man of great emotional depth — understanding, compassionate, and quick to forgive. His hands were always busy — whether managing a business, cooking up unforgettable meals, or quietly helping someone in need. Generosity defined him. He didn't just bring people together; he held them together. Passionate, hardworking, and full of grace, KK lived with open arms and an open heart. He leaves behind not just memories, but a lasting impact — a reminder of what it means to truly live, love, and leave the world better than you found it.

A Brave Fight, a Gentle Goodbye

Since 2020, KK faced significant health challenges, beginning with a stroke and later diabetes, which progressed to chronic kidney failure. Despite weekly dialysis treatments at Coptic Hospital and London Dialysis, KK met each day with resilience and grace. On 19th May 2025, feeling unwell, he was rushed to Coptic Hospital. Surrounded by his loved ones, he gently departed this world in the early hours — peacefully, and deeply loved.

May he rest in peace and rise in glory.



GUKUNGUIRA MUTURIRE WA STEPHEN KARANJA GICHIUHI (KK)

*Kwari tariki 24th November, 1958
ituraini ria Kerigeti Farm, Nakuru
District riria utheri wokire thi –
Stephen Karanja Gichuhi uria
turamui ithuothe ta KK.*

*Aciaria ake mari mutigairi Solomon
Kamau Gichuhi na mwendoni-iri
Esther Wanjiku. Nyina Munini ni
Margaret Waithera Kamau wa Ondiri
Farm, Kikuyu.*

Maciaraniro na mutigaiiri Peter Ndungu, mutigaiiri Grishon Nguo, Joseph Njuguna, Mary Nyambura, Dorcas Ngendo, Jacinta Njeri, David Ndungu (South Africa), na Lucy Njambi (UK). Maramu ake ni Vielinah Njeri, Grace Nyokabi, mutigaiiri Roseline Mukami, Barongo Rukara, Edward Kimani, Bishop Peter Njenga, Mary Wanjiru, Neil Cameron.

Aciari a Judy Kaidi ni Atigaire Paul kiema na Joyce kiema. Athoni ake ni Ann Hinga, Solomon kiema, Samson kiema, Betty Malonza, Henry kiema na Moses kiema. Judy karanja niwe wari Kihinganda.



Unyinyi Wake.

Mutigairi akurire Kerigeti Farm, na Thika Town Kuria aciari ake mathamirie kwo 1963. Aciari ake machokire magithamira Ondiri Farm mwakaini wa 1970

Githomo

Karanja ni ambiriire thabari yake ya kumatha ugi thukuruini wa muthingi wa Thika, na thuthaini niathamirio thukuruini wa muthingi wa wa Mugomoini kuria ekire kigerio giake gia CPE mwakaini wa 1973. Niacokire akingira thukuruini wa Kikuyu Day Secondary 1974 nginya 1977 kuria athomire githomo giake kia O-Levels.

Ariki niathire Nairobi Polytechnic kuria athomire githomo kia A-levels mwakaini wa 1978 nginyagia 1979. Ari mundu mugi muno na mwendi githomo, ari nakio kinene muno gia gwaka muturire wake na njira ya guthoma.

Muthingi Murumu Wa Witikio

Karanja niabatithirio kanithaini wa Catholic wa Thika Mwakaini wa 1968 na akirumia witikio wake miaka yake yothe. Mathamira Ondiri Farm agituka murumiriri wa kanitha ya PCEA Ondiri miakaini yake ya withi na thutha wake kugia mucii nimathamire kanitha wa PCEA Kikuyu Township. KK araturire muturire wake wothe na njira ya gutungata na wendo Munene muno wa witikio. Mwakaini wa 2022, KK nieruhirie kirikaniro giake na Ngai na akionania wirutaniria Munene muno wa gwikiria maundu ma uthingu ohamwe na Kwenda Ngai.





Uhiki

Karanja arari muthuri mwihokeku wa Judy Kaindi Karanja, uria maranyitaniire gwaka mucii wao na muthingi murumu. Kuri takirki 4 August, 1984 nimekire uhiki wao thukuruini wa PCEA Lenana High School.

Nimarathimirwo na ciana igiri nio Mutigairi Lyon Kamau (1985), na Linda Wanjiku(1988) mwana uria arehire gikeno kinene muno. Arari Muciari Muthoniwe wa Munge King'ori na guka wa Nathari Njeri Munge, uria aramukenagia muno matukuini make mothe. Athoni ake ni Kingori na Njeri Munge.

Wira

Karanja ambiriire wira wake wa urutani thukuruini wa Kikuyu Township High School (1980-1983) na thuthaini agicokerera urimi, wira uria wamureheire uhoreru Munene muno. Mwakaini wa 1986 niagiire na muto wa biachara na akiambirira KK butchery ohamwe na mukawa. Mukawa uria wi ngumo nene muno kundu kuingi niundu wa murugire wa irio cia gikiro kia iguru muno, utungata mwega na utana Munene muno uria no KK angirahotire.

Mwakaini wa 2014, nimathamiere wira wao Nairobi CBD uria witagwo Lyon's Highlands Annex kuria aratungatire na kio na wendo munene muno nginyagia kuhuruka gwake.

Ngoga Yake

KK arari mundu wa andu; Kirigiriro kuri andu othe, mugambo uria urari muhoreru muno handu hothe, na gitugi kinene muno gia kunyitithania nyumba na family yake yothe hamwe hatari guthutukania miaka kana ikiro rii.

Mundu wothe uracemanagia na Karanja niaraiguaga, niacemanitie na mundu ungimwona, amuthikiririe na amwende. Arari mwiikariri gititi wa Gichuhi Cousins Group na niarekagirira muno uiguano thiini wa nyumba yao yothe, ohamwe na kumakenia, kuthaka nyimbo njega, ohamwe na kumaririkania tumaundu twa tene. Muturire wa Karanja ndungiraririo na ciugo, urari muturire wa utana Munene, gikeno kiingi, wendo Munene muno utari mihaka.

Arari guka mwega uria araturire akenete na nimarakenaga muno na gacucu gake hindi ciothe. Wendo wake kuri andu othe urari nginya kwi Nyamu na maita maingi nionekaga akiaria na nyamu ciake ta arata a tene muno. Karanja arari na kiheo kinene muno gia gutuma mundu wothe aigue aiganiire – muikarie wake wa mathekania, na ngwataniro ya wendo niuraninaga ihoru riothe haria hothe arakoraga kwina kieha, na arari mutana muno.

Karanja araturire muturire wa kwiiturura ohamwe na kwiima niundu wa andu aria angi. Niatiga kionereria kiega muno kia uria muturire mukaru ubatие guturwo ohamwe na gutiga thiino i njega makiria ya uria wamikorire.

Ndwari na Kuhuruka Gwake

Mwakaini wa 2020, Karanja niambiiriire kugia na mathina ma mwiri, Niambire akinyitwo ni stroke, na thutha ucio akigia murimu wa cukari, thutha ucionagiire thina wa higo na niarekagwo Dialysis thibitari itiganite. Niararuire na ndwari na ucamba na witikio munene.

Kuri tariki 19th May, 2025, Karanja niateng'eririo thibitari wa Coptic atekuigua wega na mathaa ma ruciini, athiururukirio ni nyumba yake iria iramwendete muno,

Mwathani niamuhurukirie mathaa ma ruciini na wendo muingi na endetwo muno.

Karanja huruka thayu.



Tributes

A letter to my dear husband

KK, my dear,

As you lay here today, I don't say goodbye — I say, see you later. We had 41 beautiful years together. Years filled with deep love, laughter, unwavering friendship, and the truest partnership I could have ever dreamed of. We truly did life together.

Even now, as my heart breaks in ways I didn't think possible, I find comfort in our memories. I am grieving, yes — but I am equally grateful. These past few days have been the darkest I've known, but I know you are watching over us, together with Kamau. I feel your presence — in the stillness, in our child's faces, in the little moments that whisper of your love.

The life we built — our family, our home, our shared dreams — will carry your memory forward. Your spirit lives on in our child and our grandchild. Hoping to get more. You spent the weekend with Nathari. In her little voice, I heard echoes of you — her innocent joy reminded me of the warmth you brought into our lives. She said, "Guka," and for a moment, it was as if you were speaking through them. A gentle reminder that you are not truly gone. You were the love of my life. I remember how we met — I was working at the bank, and suddenly, you became our most loyal daily custom-

er. I should have known then what you were up to! But what began as those cheeky visits blossomed into a lifetime of love. We raised beautiful children together, and we loved them fiercely. We made a good team, didn't we?

As we lay your body to rest today, know this: your soul, your generosity, and your boundless love remain with me. With us. You gave so much, even in your final days. And that spirit — your amazing ability to give — will live on in the stories we tell, the love we share, and the lives you touched.

Rest well, my love. Until we meet again.

With all my heart, Loving wife Judy Kaindi Karanja



Dad, Words can't express how painful this is. I'm grateful I was the last person you spoke to before you went to bed. I am happy Mum was by your side when you went to be with the Lord.

I love that you spent the weekend with Nathari fighting who gets the remote first. I could see she brought you so much joy. Watching you with her, I could see how much love you had in your heart. You were more than just a father-you were my biggest supporter. You believed in me when I doubted myself.

You gave me strength when I felt weak. You guided me through life and business, always ready with wisdom, humor, and honesty. I'll miss our phone calls, your advice, and the way you made everything feel manageable. You welcomed Munge into your life with open arms and we were all excited that you would get to walk me down the isle. Your strong personality lives on in me, and your love will live on in all of us. I don't know where to begin without you, but all I can do is try To be the kind of parent, partner, and person you taught me to be.

Rest in peace, Dad.

I love you deeply,

and I'll carry you in my heart always.

Loving daughter Linda Wanjiku



***Guka
Nathari
(grandchild)***



Tribute from the Siblings

Today, we gather here to celebrate the life of our dear brother KK, a son, a brother, a father and a friend who touched the lives of so many.

As your siblings, it is so difficult to say goodbye to you, our beloved brother. How do we begin to describe you while you were just a total package?

For some of us who were much younger in the family you taught us so much about life for which we are eternally grateful. We remember how you used to assist us to do our homework, including our command of the English language. You used to assist us to cross railway line at Kikuyu station on our way to and from school.

KK was a super dancer. He taught us how to dance to the various genres of 70s and 80s hit music. Kasongo and Celebration were his favourite hits.

We remember those 'stage' dancing sessions we used to have which included some of our neighbours. During his hay days, he was a fashionista. His trademark style was an Afro hair style. KK was very generous. When he started working as an untrained teacher, even with his meagre salary then he would give us pocket money. When he opened his businesses, he continued to be very generous to the entire family.

He loved our mum so dearly and would visit her or call her often even during his recent ill health. He also loved all his nephews and nieces. He recently had a session with them and blessed them. KK was the glue that held us together, not just as siblings, but even the greater Gichuhi family. Thank you, brother, for all the joy and love you brought into our lives. Though you have left us, we will never forget the memories we made with you.

We shall miss you deeply, but we know that your spirit will live on through us.

Rest in eternal peace our brother and know that you will always be in our hearts.



in loving memory of father -in -law

From the moment I entered his home, I felt his warmth and quiet strength. He welcomed me with open arms and became a father figure. He had a way of making everyone feel welcome and heard, whether through his gentle smile or thoughtful advice.

I remember one Sunday he found Njeri (grandchild) sitting on his favorite spot on the couch, he did not say anything or try to move her, but he found another favorite spot.

He Loved his family with his entire heart, and he would do anything for them to live a happy and comfortable life. He lived a life of integrity, humility and love- a quiet strength that touched everyone he met. Though he may no longer be beside us his spirit remains etched in our hearts. Love is a scarce commodity in this generation, but you had it abundantly! Rest peacefully,

Dad. Your memory will forever be a blessing to us all.

Love your son-in-law. Munge King'ori



A tribute to our loving uncle KK

It feels surreal to be writing this tribute. Uncle KK was an invincible force, an ever present, loving and caring man with the heart of a lion. His hearty laughter, captivating smile and peak banter will be missed. He was always ready to crack a joke or tease you ever so gently, but beneath the charm and contagious laughter was a sturdy, caring, loving and hospitable patriarch who always had room and space

for all his nieces and nephews with no prejudice. We will fondly remember, the warm, tasty and perfectly seasoned samosas that were his specialty when we visited KK butchery. We are grateful that you carefully took time to train one of us the recipe to ensure it is passed down generations. It has been interesting to watch Uncle evolve and grow with us; from an ever-playful, uncle throwing us in the air, chasing us around as children, to giving us stern, but nurturing advise when

the rowdiness of teenage years took over us, to fondly reminiscing his youth with us as we became young adults, finding our way in the world and finally offering wisdom, guidance and direction, delivered with wit as we became adults stepping into parenthood and marriage. You especially had a special way with the boys, now men in our family, and always did your best to ensure that they became upstanding role models in their homes and society. You taught them the importance of manhood and taking pride in who they were. It was your joy and delight when you saw your grandchildren, the ever-growing brood of young ones, especially during Christmas. We know that the holiday meeting will be especially quiet without you there, and your empty seat will be a reminder of what we have lost.

Shine on your way, Uncle KK. We will dearly miss you.

Kamau Family Cousin's





KK

THE LIFE AND TIMES OF



It is well with my soul!

When peace like a river attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot Thou hast taught me to say,
"It is well, it is well with my soul!"

It is well with my soul!
It is well, it is well with my soul!

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate,
And hath shed His own blood for my soul.

My sin—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought—
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to His Cross, and I bear it no more;
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

For me, be it Christ, be it Christ hence to live;
If dark hours about me shall roll,
No pang shall be mine, for in death as in life
Thou wilt whisper Thy peace to my soul

.Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah,
Pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but Thou art mighty;
Hold me with Thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven,
Feed me now and evermore;
Bread of heaven,
Feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain,
Whence the healing waters flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliverer,
Be Thou still my Strength and Shield.
Strong Deliverer,
Be Thou still my Strength and Shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's destruction,
Land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, I will ever give to Thee;
Songs of praises, I will ever give to Thee.

Land me safe on Canaan's side
Bid my anxious fears, bid my anxious fears
Land me safe on Canaan's side
Bid my anxious fears, bid my anxious fears, goodbye

Uhoro wa muoyo

Nī wa Mwathani Jesū,
Ningī nī wa hinya ma
Gütütongoragia.

Na maündū moru
Mangitukuhirīria,
Jesū niwe Mūhoti
Wa gütügitīra.

Hīndī ya magerio
Niwe mütüteithia.
Tüngimükāira ma
Niegütühonokia.

Mündū ümwihokete
Ndangīaga gūkena,
Tondū ütheri wake
Nīumuonagia njīra.

Ütonga wa thī īno
Ti ta ngoro njega,
No kūgīa na Mwathani
Kürehage thayū.

Muoyo wa gūtoria
Uumaga kwī Mwathani
Tūmwendage twī gūkū,
Ithū ciana ciake.

Matukū mathira
Ma gütūra gūkū thī,
Tūgatūra na Jesū
Tene o na tene.

Jesū We ünyendete,
Nīngūrīra harī we:
Rīrīa mbaara ī nene,
Nowe wa kū'honokia;
'Hitha mbaru-inī ciaku,
Nīi mündū mūthīni;
'Honokia Ngai wakwa
Gīfīra muoyo wakwa.

Wīhitho wakwa nowe
Na murū wakwa nowe;
Ndikaingatwo harī we,
Njoya ünjītikīre;
Nīi nīngwihokete,
Nowe üteithio wakwa
O na mwīgitio wakwa;
Ündoorerie thū ciakwa.

Wega wothe nī waku,
Wohanīri no waku;
Mwathani ndanyihīrūo,
Njīyūria wega waku:
Jesu ndakwamūkīra,
We Githima kīa muoyo;
Therūka thīnī wakwa
Kinya tene na tene.

Cha Kutumaini Sina

Cha kutumaini sina,
Ila damu yake Bwana,
Sina wema wa kutosha,
Dhambi zangu kuziosha.

Kwake Yesu nasimama,
Ndiye mwamba ni salama,
Ndiye mwamba ni salama,
Ndiye mwamba ni salama.

Njia yangu iwe ndefu,
Yeye hunipa wokovu,
Mawimbi yakinipiga,
Nguvu ndizo nanga

Damu yake na sadaka,
Nategemea daima,
Yote chini yakiisha,
Mwokozi atanitosha.

Nikiitwa hukumuni,
Rohoni nina amani,
Nikivikwa haki yake,
Sina hofu mbele zake.

Kwake Yesu nasimama,
Ndiye mwamba ni salama,
Ndiye mwamba ni salama,
Ndiye mwamba ni salama.

Nī ekündongoria mwathani
Na nīi nī ngūkena mūno
Harīa hothe ndīthiaga
Nī Jesu ürīndongoragia

Nī wandongoririe nī ündongoretie
Guoko gwaku kū'nyifite
Nī ngūgītwarana nawe
Mwathani ündongoragie

Na rīmwe ndī magerio-inī
Na rīngī ndī gīkeno-inī
Marīa mothe marūkaga
Mwathani ündeithagie

Guoko gwaku kū'nyifite
Amwe nī mekūrakara
Kīrīa gīothe ürīheaga
Ndī hakuhī kwamūkīra

Ingīnina wīra wa thī
Nī ngathīi gwaku igūrū
Na nīi nī ngagūkumagia
Wee ürīa wanandongoria



Don't let my legacy die by the way
I promise you all I'll see you someday.

Be Strong. Dream big.
Be the kind of person I know you can be.

Live up to your potential for yourself.
For me I'm always with you

Always...

Red Spark  creatives the Spark in your brand

DESIGN | PHOTOGRAPHY | VIDEOGRAPHY

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