



*A Home-Going Celebration  
for*

*Peter Anum Laryea*

**Sunrise**  
*October 1, 1943*

**Sunset**  
*March 31, 2010*

Friday, July 2, 2010 • 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

**ST. MARY'S R.C.C**  
520 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
Newark, New Jersey



## *To Say Goodbye*

*To say goodbye is not the end  
To all my family and friends  
For life goes on, you must endure  
For my eternity is sure.  
Remember all the good times  
The memories we've shared  
The precious jewels of laughter  
The tender love and care.  
I found my resting place  
God's peace surrounds my soul  
Let love abound in all your hearts  
Let heaven be your goal.*

*-Author unknown*

## *Tribute by Widow - Mrs. Elizabeth Ainoo Baryea*

*"He will wipe every tear from their eyes.  
There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain,  
for the old order of things has passed away." Revelation 21:4*

Peter and I met in March of 1966. Both of us, as young adults sang in the church choir at St. Theresa's Catholic Church at Essikado near Sekondi in the Western Region of Ghana. We both lived in Essikado so as our friendship which started in church grew deeper and deeper we were not only meeting in church but were seeing each other as often as time allowed. We went out together and prayed together for God's direction for our relationship.

Pee, as I called him was tall and handsome, he was caring and loving so I could not resist saying yes when he proposed to me in May 1971. We were traditionally married in June 1972 and on May 28, 1979 we celebrated sacrament of Holy Matrimony. As we continued to live together, our love for each other deepened and by 1978, God blessed us with four beautiful children; a son and three daughters.

In his quest to increase the quality of life for both of us and the children, Pee traveled to the United States of America in February 1980. His departure brought a lot of hardship on me as I struggled to make ends meet and care for the children. I engaged in trading and other jobs. As I struggled in Ghana he was also struggling to get settled in the United States. At the time the only means of communication was by letter writing. Sometimes it took so long for his letters to reach me and the children so did my letters to him. One can imagine the pain and agony waiting so long to hear from a loved one.

God listened to our prayers as he re-united us when the children and I joined Pee in the US one after the other in the 90s. Our relationship was revitalized, renewed and strengthened.

In December 2007, Peter went home for holidays. He got sick and had to be brought back to the USA for treatment. The following weeks and months saw him in hospitals and rehabilitation centers. It was a very challenging period for us. We stood firm and believed in the one who created us and prayed that His will be done. On May 31, 2010, Pee breathed his last breath while I held his hands. The hands that had given me warmth over the years turned cold while I held it.

Pee, I thank God for the forty-four years that he gave me with you. May the same loving God lead you to his heavenly kingdom, Pee. I know and believe that we shall meet and sing with the heavenly choir one day. Nyame nye wo nko dwo-o dwo-o. Da yie!!

## The Lord's My Shepherd I'll Not Want (CH 106)

1. The Lord's my shepherd I'll not want.  
He makes me down to lie  
In pastures green; He leadeth me  
The quiet waters by.
2. My soul He doth restore again;  
And me to walk doth make  
Within the paths of righteousness,  
E'en for is own name's sake.
3. Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,  
Yet will I fear none ill;  
For Thou art with me; and Thy rod  
And staff me comfort still.
4. My table Thou has furnish-ed  
In presence of my foes;  
My head Thou dost with oil anoint,  
And my cup overflows.
5. Goodness and mercy all my life  
Shall surely follow me;  
And in God's house forevermore  
My dwelling place shall be.



### Holy Holy

Holy, holy, holy, holy  
Holy Lord God, God of hosts  
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory  
Hosanna in the highest

Blessed is He who comes in the name  
Of the Lord God, God of hosts  
Hosanna in the highest  
Hosanna in the highest

### Acknowledgments

*We thank you all so much for your kind words, your generous gifts, and most of all for your friendship with Peter. Knowing you will miss him too makes our burden a bit easier to bear. Thanks a lot and may the all mighty God richly Bless you.*

*Many thanks The family of Peter Anum Laryea.*

#### Professional Services Provided By

COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE  
130 Main Street  
Orange, NJ  
973-675-6400

1025 Bergen Street  
Newark, NJ  
973-926-6400

COTTON-PARKER FUNERAL HOME  
37 Clinton Avenue  
Jersey City, NJ  
201-433-1000

## **The Life and Death of Peter Laryea**

**Peter Anum Laryea (Ataa Laryea)** was born on October 1, 1943 in Sekondi, Ghana in West Africa. Peter was the sixth of nine children born to his parents, Joseph Clement Anum and Sarah Cartey. His father, Joseph went to be with the Lord in August of 1973 at the age of seventy-four, and his mother, Sarah followed twenty-four years later on January 10, 1998 at the golden age of 100.

Peter was educated at Essikado Anglican School during his childhood and during his early adult years he relocated to Accra, the state capital, to attend Saint John's Secondary School, where he studied Accounting. Peter was one of the first children of the Anum family to study and pursue a business career. He was inspired and motivated by his love of mathematics and for a brighter and better future. After completing his studies he started his first job with R.T. Briscoe in Sekondi-Takoradi. In 1967, he left R.T. Briscoe for Ghana Railways for an accountant position.

In 1966, Peter met Elizabeth E. A. Hasford and later married her in 1972. The family was completed with four children, Emmanuel (Ebow), Peteronella (Dede), Sarah (KorKor or KK) and Ophelia (Kaa).

Peter was a full-fledged family man while still working at Ghana Railways. He served the organization for many years before catching the traveling bug. Seeking new challenges, Peter came to the United States in 1980 to pursue his American dream. In pursuit of his American dream he had to leave his wife, Elizabeth and their four children in Ghana.

Ataa Laryea began his career in America by doing minor jobs but his most meaningful and memorable career was with the United States Postal Service and Bethel Israel Hospital. In 1991, he successfully brought his two youngest daughters who were under the age of sixteen years to the US. He was also instrumental in bringing his niece, Beatrice to the US in 1991. By 2003, he had managed to bring his wife and his remaining children to the US.

In 2006, he retired from Beth Israel Hospital but continued working for the United Postal Service. After many years of service and devotion to the United State Postal Service he contemplated retiring in 2008. Sadly, in December 2007 he became ill, at which time he made his retirement definite. Peter served his employers faithfully and honorable until his retirement.

Along the way Peter made many loyal friends, who he considered to be his confidants. Those that truly knew him would say that he was a very giving and loyal person. It is also fair to say that he gave willingly when and if he could. He believed in the bank system where “Borrowed Money is not your Money”. Some may say that he was frugal with his money but he was also a giver.

Peter was a loving, strong, kind, caring, honest, loyal, hard working and forgiving man. He taught his children to be strong, independent, honest and respectful. He gave us all the tools we needed to not only survive but to also succeed. He will be missed by all that knew him and loved him. He was and will always be a great man and a great father that will never be forgotten.

## Funeral Mass for Mr. Peter Laryea

Officiating Clergy .....	Rev. Fr. Philip Waters (celebrant) Rev. Fr. Franis Anane Rev. Fr. Charles Akoto Odure Rev. Fr. Gordon Kusi
Entrance Hymn .....	Amazing Grace LMGM 173
1st Reading - Miss Jessica Saso .....	Job 19:23-27
Responsorial Psalm .....	The Lord's My Shepherd (CH 106) <i>Psalm 23</i>
2nd Reading- Miss Priscilla Ofori .....	Romans 8:18-25, 35, 37-39
Gospel Acclamation .....	Praise the Lord, praise the Lord (2x) Praise the Lo-ord, praise him, praise the Lo-ord, praise the Lord
Gospel .....	John 14:1-3
Prayer Response .....	Shepherd me oh God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life
Offertory .....	Rock of Ages. LMGM 51 Swing low sweet chariot. LMGM 147
Holy Holy .....	Holy Holy
Memorial Acclamation .....	We proclaim that Jesus Christ has died for us. And is risen from the dead. He is our saving Lord He is joy for all ages.
Great Amen .....	A-a-a-men, A-a-a-men, A-a-men, A-men, A-men
The Our Father .....	Recited

Lamb of God ..... Jesus, Lamb of God

Communion ..... I am the bread of life. LMGM 133

Mediation ..... It is well with my soul. LMGM 256

Prayer of Commendation

Biography of Mr. Peter Laryea ..... Mrs. Precious Acolatse

**Tributes:**

Tribute by the widow - Gladys Amoakoh

Tribute by the children - Ophelia Anum

Father, can you hear us? - Sarah Laryea

A Letter To Our Grandfather - Rejoice (Gifty) Afftram

For My Grandfather - Emmanuel Hayfrod, Jr.

Final Commendation and Farewell

Recessional ..... Blessed Assurance. LMGM 199

**Interment**  
Accra, Ghana

