

PAULINE MEBOU



Maman Mebou Pauline, widow of Ndeffo Gamwo of Monroeville, Pennsylvania, aged 88, withdrew from Earth unexpectedly on November 28, 2023 at the Emergency Room, Forbes Regional Hospital, Monroeville, Pennsylvania, USA, succumbing to sudden unforeseen cardiac complications, just three days before a long planned trip to her homeland, Cameroon.

A beacon of love, she was the cherished mother of 11 children, namely Odette Noubadjou Matietsa, Simon Pierre Nouadjou, Dr. Isaac Kuetiam Gamwo, Jeannette Nwafo Mogue NGamwo, Paul-Levi Tankouo Gamwo, Dr. Hubert Foka Gamwo, Betty Bouille, Florence Metiyem Gamwo, Claude Alain Tekeuben Gamwo, Caroline Koagne Gamwo, and Pelagie Gamwo. She nurtured several grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren. Preceding her in the journey beyond were her husband, Ndeffo Gamwo Emmanuel; her daughters, Caroline Koagne and Pelagie Gamwo; along with her brothers, David Foka and François Joubou; and her sister, Martine Diebo, whose names are now gently enfolded in the whispers of time and whose souls are resting in soothing peace with Jesus Christ.

Born in 1935 in Bafoussam, Cameroon, West Africa, Maman Pauline Mebou graced the earthly realm as the daughter of royalty. Her father, Kuipou Kuetiam, held distinguished titles, namely: Prince, 1st Deputy of King Taghwe, and the 83rd monarch of the Bafoussam dynasty. Her mother, Metiyem, hailed from Bahouan, a place nestled close to Bafoussam. At the moment of her birth, she was draped in the majestic skin of a royal panther, a potent symbol of her kinship with the illustrious royal lineage. Thus, Maman Pauline (La Mere) remains eternally a natural princess, both on Earth and in the kingdom of God. As the third of five siblings and the eldest daughter, she blossomed under the nurturing care of her grandmother, Meffo.

In 1949, she entered into the sacred union of marriage with the young gendarme, Ndeffo Gamwo Emmanuel, weaving the fabric of a tranquil life by his side. Her existence became a tapestry woven with threads of vigorous devotion to the education of her children and grandchildren. A stalwart pillar of the Evangelical Church of Banengo, she served tirelessly as an elder church advisor and held the esteemed status of an honorary member in various church choir groups.

Maman Pauline Mebou's life unfolded like a rich symphony—filled with love from those she held dear, adorned with journeys that left indelible marks on her soul, and embellished with a passion for fashion and jewelry that mirrored the radiance of her spirit. Her earthly abode spanned many areas, namely Bafoussam, Yaounde, Bafang, Sangmelima, Eseka, Kumba in Cameroon, Chicago, Illinois, and the suburbs of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in the United States. So committed was she to the growth of her nine living children, countless grandchildren, and several great-grandchildren that she immigrated to the United States 23 years ago and helped raise her grandchildren. She had four descendants named in her honor: Irene Mebou Foka in Paris, Alida Mebou Fotie in Bafoussam, Amanda Mebou Gamwo in the USA, Mebou Foka in Dakar, Senegal, Princesse Mebou Noubadjou in Douala, Malyah Nwafo Mebou in Canada. She adored cooking for family, church, music, and conversing with her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Family and friends are invited to pay their respects at Cornerstone Ministries Church, 2200 Cornerstone Lane, Murrysville, PA 15632, where a Mass will be held at 10:30 a.m. EST on Saturday, January 6, 2024. A Celebration of Life will be held on the same day at 5:00 p.m. EST at Rodef Shalom Congregation, 4905 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213. The final chapter of her earthly tale will be inscribed in the soil of Bafoussam, Cameroon, on Saturday, January 20, 2024—a poignant return to the embrace of the land she called home. In this poignant moment of farewell, let us celebrate the legacy of a woman whose life radiated honesty, rigorousness, forgiveness, warmheartedness, gentleness, godliness, adventure, love, grace, royal dignity, and an indestructible, shatterproof dedication and devotion to raising and nurturing the next few generations of Cameroonian children. Arrangements by WOLFE MEMORIAL, LCC., www.wolfepgh.com.

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