

**TRIBUTE TO THE LATE ARNOLD BENJAMIN (6641)**  
**BY DELMA BENJAMIN (SISTER)**

The most difficult task I have ever undertaken in my life is to sit down and write this tribute to my loving brother who I cannot believe have left us so soon. It is beyond belief and now I have to face one of the realities of life. That is saying a final goodbye to my only brother, Arnold who left me just when I needed him most.

I want to share with you all the Joy and blessing that Arnold's life was to me. Arnold was more than a brother. He was my protector, my confidant, my partner in crime and all that an only brother can be to his youngest sister. When my two older sisters left for College and the United Kingdom respectively it was only Arnold and I left in the house with our parents. Even though I missed my sisters it was never an empty nest for me. I had Arnold who took very good care of me as only a caring, considerate and loving brother would. I watched him take care of our parents and also myself and I realized what a blessing it was for our family to have Arnold as the oldest sibling.

Arnold was indeed a blessing to us as a family but for me he was more than a blessing. He was my 'go-to' guy for any problem that I had and he would swiftly offer solutions. We grew up under strict parentage but Arnold was street savvy and was the 'serviceman' of the family. My brother had great love for reggae music and he made me appreciate the biblical interpretations of the lyrics of reggae music.

I cannot imagine I would not be able to talk to my brother again. Growing up we would talk about almost anything as we share jokes, made fun of other people and had a good laugh at the expense of others. Arnold's sense of humor was priceless and that got me into trouble several times. Growing up in the Benjamin household was at times challenging especially when it came to going out at night to parties. Our parents were very strict, to put it mildly. They wanted us to be home at a certain time and of course we were labeled by friends as 'hose pekin'. Despite the strict edict of our parents, Arnold still found way to cover for me when I would go out. He had my back! I knew I would count on him staying up till I got home not only to make sure I was safe but to ensure that our parents never hear the gate and doors being opened. Only a brother like Arnold would do that for a sister.

The Western world has its own challenges but after he came to the United Kingdom we became much closer and the bonds of love became stronger. Arnold became my very closer confidant, a relationship my other siblings never knew we had until later years.



Arnold, my brother I miss you already. Your calmness whenever I call upon you with frustrating situations has been invaluable. I will forever continue to hear you say to me “Yeside nor worry usef. Nor make dat worry you”. You will forever be in my heart and as we bid you one last goodbye I just want to say:

I love you Arnold with all my heart

And hate that we should be apart

Our love is a bond that can't be broken

You may be gone, but never forgotten

Sleep well my brother, sleep well. You will forever be in my heart and my thoughts and may your loving soul rest peacefully in heaven.