

**Tribute – Dr. Arthur Davey Omopeh Wright (4580) by Dr Eugene Terry (4565) at the Memorial Service held for Dr A D O Wright on Saturday August 12,2017 In Springfield, Virginia, USA.**



**Late Dr. Arthur Davey Omope Wright (GCOR)**

**Former Chairman, Board of Governors, Sierra Leone Grammar School.  
Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) Specialist in Sierra Leone.**

- 1. My first and most important duty this morning is to convey to you the Family of Dave Wright my heartfelt sympathy, and sincere expressions of condolences for myself and on behalf of some of Dave’s closest friends, for the loss of your loved one. We want you to know that we pray that you will have the strength and courage to bear this irreparable loss!**
- 2. He was “Dave” to us his close friends  
He was perhaps Arthur to others especially those with whom he studied in Europe  
He was ADO Wright or just Dr. Wright to others – especially his patients  
And to his friends and associates at the AQUA CLUB he was Commodore  
A man of many parts indeed!!**

3. Dave's passing is a grave loss indeed, and it presents us with the familiar dilemma when we lose beloved ones. At once we grieve and we mourn as we must, but it presents us with the opportunity to celebrate their life. So let it be thus with Dave. Dave was born on 15 December 1937 – and so if the cruel hand of fate had not snatched him from us on that memorable day – the 26<sup>th</sup> July –he would have joined the ranks of the Octogenarians in the short span of 5 months or so. It is fitting therefore that the family has declared that this is a celebration of his life and Legacy.
4. If I was a Poet – here is how I would express my feelings about the passing of my dear and close friend Dave Wright – “some people come into our lives and leave footprints on our hearts, and we are never the same” Another close friend –John Bankole-Jones has asked me to convey his own reflections in the words of the Poet Lord Tennyson “Let there be no sadness now that Dave has put out to sea where he hopes to meet his pilot face to face when he has crossed the Bar” Fitting words for a man who loved sailing!
5. My friendship with Dave goes back a long way. It is my honor and privilege, therefore to have been asked to memorialize this wonderful human being. Well, I spent the first 10 or so years of my life at 74 Kissy Rd and sometime within those 10 years I met Dave. So we were friends for almost 70 years – I guess that dates me – so full disclosure, I scored my own Three Score and Twenty in June this year. Dave grew up at # 113 Kissy Rd – and as the crow flies, we were just if not shouting distance, perhaps a five minute brisk walk from each other.
6. There was a Band of Comrades true (Regentonians will recognize those lines) – A band of Comrades True Indeed - We call ourselves The Class of 51 (the year we started Form 1 at the Grammar School) or if you prefer Class of 55 (OUR graduating year). We were a bunch of little runts, rascals in reality, - full of mischief, clever little 13/14 year old BOYS. We were full of that boundless energy that is fueled by that powerful

hormone – TESTOSTERONE, The hormone that masculinized our brains and drove our boyish aggressiveness and competitiveness.

7. Amid all of this hustling and bustling and much confusion –there was among us one who was forever the essence of calmness and serenity – That was Arthur Dave Wright – hardly ever ruffled, and always seemed to be at peace with the world! This quiet and unruffled quality must have in large measure enhanced Dave’s ability to meet and overcome the many challenges he encountered in life. As his impressive Resume will attest Dave has acquitted himself with brilliance right through : - Elementary School; The Grammar School; Medical Schools in Germany, Denmark, and Scotland – to become the renowned OTOLARYNGOLOGIST – to us laymen – an ENT Specialist that he was. He went on – still unruffled and seemingly unfazed – to hold high offices: At the West African College of Surgeons, to become Dean –Faculty of Clinical Sciences, College of Medicine, University of Sierra Leone, Member and eventually Chair, Interim Board of Governors SLGS from 2008 until his passing. He will be remembered for his life of dedication to Medicine , to Charities – Notably Rotary, and to his beloved Alma Mater – the Sierra Leone Grammar School which he served by holding many senior governance positions. For his dedicated service to his country and community Dave was awarded the high and prestigious GCOR! You the Family members should be very proud indeed!
8. Dave had that perplexing boyish innocence and a quiet charm that endeared him to all of us his boyhood friends – and let me add – I have no doubt that this characteristic charm endeared him also, in no small measure to the young ladies of our age group.
9. I know that I speak not only on my own behalf, but also on behalf of Dave’s very numerous other close friends who could not be here today, when I say we cherished this friendship very much. I can also say that even though we may have spent years apart at some point in our lives, when we were together the years fall away, and that what really

mattered was to have each other to remind ourselves about how far we have come.

Fellow Regentonian – Arthur Davey Omopeh Wright - May your soul rest in Perfect Peace! – Adieu.

Eugene Robert Terry

Class of 51- Sierra Leone Grammar School

12 August 2017

Washington, DC, USA