

**TRIBUTE TO A FELLOW REGENTONIAN:
Mr Frederick Jonathan Babatunde Macfoy(6398)
By Abioseh Michael Porter, PhD**



My Fellow Regentonians: Frederick Babatunde "Fero" Macfoy was a good human being! On the untimely death of my friend, brother, and neighbour from childhood, Frederick Babatunde Macfoy (known by all as Fero), I will give this brief tribute by addressing three groups of people: First, to Fero himself, I will quote from the Cherokee people because in the African tradition as in many Native American traditions, our loved ones even in death, do not simply leave us. The Cherokees have an expression that I have found very useful

When you were born, you cried and the world rejoiced. Live your life so that when you die, the world cries and you rejoice.

Cherokee Expression

For Fero's family, especially Cyrus and Alake (Helen), we all know but cannot understand as much as you do, that

"When one person [like Fero] is missing the whole world seems empty."

— Pat Schweibert, *Tear Soup: A Recipe for Healing After Loss*

and that

The whole world can become the enemy when you lose what you love."

— Kristina McMorris, *Bridge of Scarlet Leaves*

Like you, we have wept:

"And we wept that one so lovely [and kind] should have a life so brief"

— William Cullen Bryant

But, again, to all who considered Fero a friend or family member, I leave you with the following pertinent sayings:

Say not in grief: "he is no more," but live in thankfulness that he was.

Hebrew Proverb

Trials give you strength, sorrows give understanding and wisdom.

Chuck T. Falcon

"Death leaves a heartache no one can heal, love leaves a memory no one can steal."

— a headstone in Ireland

We will miss our Fero because he always tried to bring out the best in whomever he encountered. Those who knew him will all agree that Fero, our Fero (OK, "Sir Fred Fred" when we wanted to embarrass him) was not only a highly intelligent, hardworking, knowledgeable, and likeable individual, but also a kind soul whose presence and participation in discussions greatly amplified such debates and discussions.

Tunde Fero Macfoy will forever remain a friend and brother because, above all, he was good person-the highest compliment I can pay anyone! But, again, that was not all. Extremely witty and stubborn, he was not a bore.

A thoroughly intellectually sophisticated man, one who was sensitive and deeply attuned to the complex issues of our times, our Fero will be sorely missed! My life is mightily enriched just by knowing and "hanging out" with Fero. May his soul rest in perfect peace!

Abioseh (Mike P) Porter

Abioseh Michael Porter