



Celebrating the life of

DR. JEAN ANN MAKENA MARANGU

April 8th, 1959 - September 20th, 2015

Order of Service

Presiding Minister: Rev. Maromba

Ushers: David Muthuri and others

Master of Ceremony: Mr. Muriuki Manene

Hymn: Amazing Grace

Eulogy: Mr. Mutuma Marangu

Hymn: Blessed Assurance

Tributes:

Family Member: Mr. Cornelius Muthuri

Friends :
Amb. Francis Muthaura
Lady Justice Martha Koome
Dr. Bryant Orjiako
Dr. Victoria Waldock to be read by
Prof. L. Ethangatta

Family Tribute: Mr. Peter Marangu.

Hymn: When Peace like a River

Readings:

First reading: Revelations 7:9-17: Brenda Muthuri

Second reading: Romans 8:31-39: Kinya Marangu.

Sermon: Rev. Elijah Wanje

Offertory Hymn: How great though art

Prayer for the family: Rev. Maromba & Rev. Cindy North

Vote of thanks: Lady Justice Martha Koome

Benediction: Rev. Maromba/Rev. Wanje

Exit Hymn: Abide with me

Hymns

AMAZING GRACE

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.

BLESSED ASSURANCE

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

Chorus
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Saviour, all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Saviour, all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Chorus

Perfect submission, all is at rest
I in my Saviour am happy and blest,
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

Chorus



HOW GREAT THOU ART

O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed;

Chorus

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I
wander
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
when I look down from lofty mountain gran-
deur,
and hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze;

Chorus

And when I think that God His Son not spar-
ing,
Sent Him to die - I scarce can take it in,
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin:

Chorus

When Christ shall come with shout of acclama-
tion
And take me home- what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou
art!

Chorus

WHEN PEACE LIKE A RIVER

When peace, like a river, attendeth
my way,
when sorrows like sea billows roll;
whatever my lot, thou hast taught
me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.

Refrain:

It is well with my soul,
it is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though
trials should come,
let this blest assurance control,
that Christ has regarded my helpless
estate,
and hath shed his own blood for my
soul.
(Refrain)

My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious
thought!
My sin, not in part but the whole,
is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no
more,
praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O
my soul!
(Refrain)

And, Lord, haste the day when my
faith shall be sight,
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
the trump shall resound, and the
Lord shall descend,
even so, it is well with my soul.
(Refrain)

Birth and Early Years

Dr. Jean Ann Makena Marangu was the firstborn and the only daughter of Professors John and Leah Marangu. Makena was born on April 8th, 1959 at Meru Hospital where her mother worked as a midwife and public health nurse.

When Makena was a baby, her father would take her and her mother in their Austin pickup for the daily 5 kilometer journey from their home in Kaaga to her mother's workplace at Meru Hospital. The Meru Hospital Superintendent at that time was the late Joshua Awori, and he had a house at the hospital where he stayed with his family including his young son Dennis [Ambassador Dennis Awori].

The late Joshua Awori kindly made Makena's mother a Creche at his house so she could feed Makena during her breaks. Makena never knew

bottle feeding. This act of kindness by the late Joshua Awori began a friendship between both families that has grown over time. In fact, years later, after Makena had become a doctor, Makena returned thanks when she worked with the late Joshua Awori's brother, Hon. Moody Awori to supply medicine to their home hospital in Funyula.

In January 1960, Makena's parents wanted to further their education by going to school and the only place that gave them that opportunity was the United States. Makena was 9 months of age at that time, and her father's intention was to take Makena and her mother to the U.S. However, a U.S. visa was given to only her father and he proceeded on to Olivet Nazarene College in January 1960 with determination to try and bring both Makena and her mother to join him in America.



Makena at 17 months in 1960



Makena at 18 months old, with her mother, paternal grandparents Paul & Damaris M'itwoke in Sept. 1960. Just before her mother proceeded to USA for education

In September 1960, Makena's father succeeded in securing a visa for Makena's mother, but they were told by U.S. authorities that Makena could not get a visa to go to the U.S. until she reached school age. At that time Makena was 17 months old.

Makena remained in Meru and was taken care of by her maternal grandmother Isabella M'Mbui until she was about 5 years old.



Makena with her maternal grandmother, great-grandmother and her care giver. She was left under their care when her mother left for USA.



Makena with Grandpa Hezekiah M'Mbui and his family



Makena and her late cousin Gitonga

When Makena was about five years old her father's brother, Bishop Lawi Imathiu then requested Makena to join her cousins Ruth and Grace Imathiu who were similar to her in age. Makena stayed with the Imathius until she joined her father, mother and brother in the U.S. in March of 1966, when she was almost 7 years old



Makena with her cousins, they lived in Meru and also moved Limuru at the Theological College the current St. Paul University, where Bishop Imathiu was pursuing his theological education. Bishop Imathiu provided the Bisses with the information needed for Makena's Visa application.



Ruth, Grace and Makena (Jean) in Meru

How Makena got her first Visa to travel to the U.S.

In the early 1960s, international students travelling to the U.S. were given 1 year visas, and they had to renew their student visas on an annual basis. At that time, the U.S. did not allow foreign students to have a child join them in America until the child was of school age. As Makena was less than 2 years old in 1960, she was not given a visa to go to the U.S. when her father and mother travelled there to further their education at Olivet Nazarene College. After that, and for every year thereafter, as part of the process for renewing their 1 year student visas, her father and mother had to confirm to U.S. authorities that Makena was not in the U.S., as she was not yet of school age.

Having successfully received their Bachelor's degrees from Olivet Nazarene College, John and Leah then continued their studying, moving to Northern

Illinois University [NIU], in DeKalb, Illinois.

As it happened in DeKalb, there was a medical cardiologist who was a professor of medicine at Northwestern University, but lived in the neighborhood of Northern Illinois University, who wanted to go to Kenya to conduct research on the traditional food and diet of the Maasai, to better understand why they had lower levels of heart disease.

The cardiologist's name was Dr. Kurt Biss. Dr. Biss planned to travel to Kenya with his wife Raya [nee Garbousova] Biss, who was a world class cellist. So while Dr. Biss was going to do research, Mrs. Biss was coming as an ambassador of goodwill and planned to conduct a number of musical performances in Kenya at the same time.



Dr. & Mrs Kurt Biss holding Makena upon arrival at O'Hare airport in Chicago minutes before she reunited with her family.



*For my friends Marangu friends
1977. affectionately Raya Garbousova Biss*

A portrait of Mrs Raya Garbousova Biss a renowned world class cellist.

In the 30th January 1997 New York Times Obituary for Mrs. Biss, it was noted that "Miss Garbousova, a formidable musician whose technique was equal to the challenges of such difficult works as Gunther Schuller's unaccompanied "Fantasy," could produce the bittersweet, soaring lyricism that the Barber Concerto requires. Early in her performing career, Pablo Casals, with whom she had studied, declared her "the best cellist I have ever heard." In her later years, Janos Starker, Mstislav Rostropovich and Yo-Yo Ma were among her admirers."

Dr. and Mrs. Biss had never been to Kenya and wanted to learn what they could about the country before they travelled there. They found out from mutual friends that there were two students from Kenya on the campus, and contacted John and Leah. John and Leah shared their knowledge of Kenya, and also taught Dr. and Mrs. Biss a few words of Kiswahili. The Bisses were thankful, and wanted to pay John and Leah for their help, but this monetary payment was politely declined. Instead, Leah and John asked Mrs. Biss if she could go to Meru when she was in Kenya and bring back a picture of Makena. Mrs. Biss willingly agreed to do this for Leah and John.

During their tour of Kenya in 1966, Mrs. Biss gave a cello performance for Kenya's first President Jomo Kenyatta. After the performance, while Mrs. Biss was talking with President Kenyatta, she showed President Kenyatta the picture she had taken of Makena in Meru, and asked if he could help get a U.S. visa for Makena. That way she (Mrs. Biss) could travel back to the U.S. with Makena instead of just taking a picture of her back to her parents. President Jomo Kenyatta reacted positively to Mrs. Biss' request for Makena to receive a U.S. Visa and asked the then Kenyan Attorney General Charles Njonjo to appeal to the U.S. Embassy for a Visa for Makena to go to America.

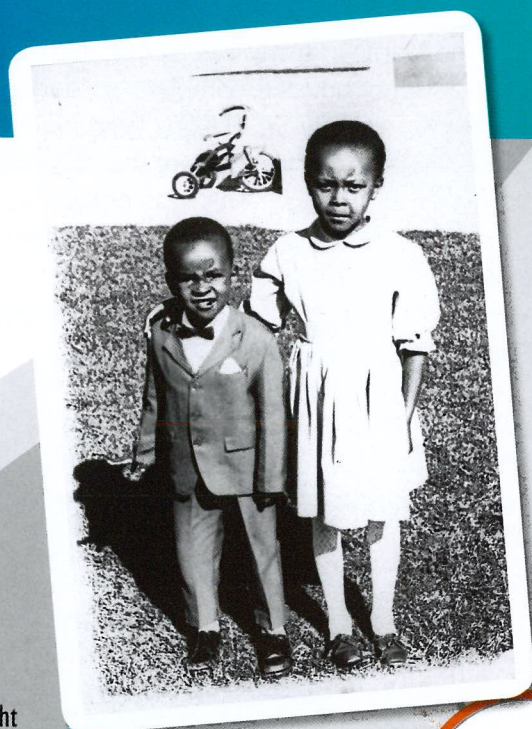
The appeal was successful and Dr. and Mrs. Biss changed their travel plans and waited in Kenya until the U.S. Embassy gave the visa for Makena to travel with them. With Makena's U.S. visa approved, Dr. and Mrs. Biss travelled with Makena to the U.S. to reunite with her joyful parents and brother.

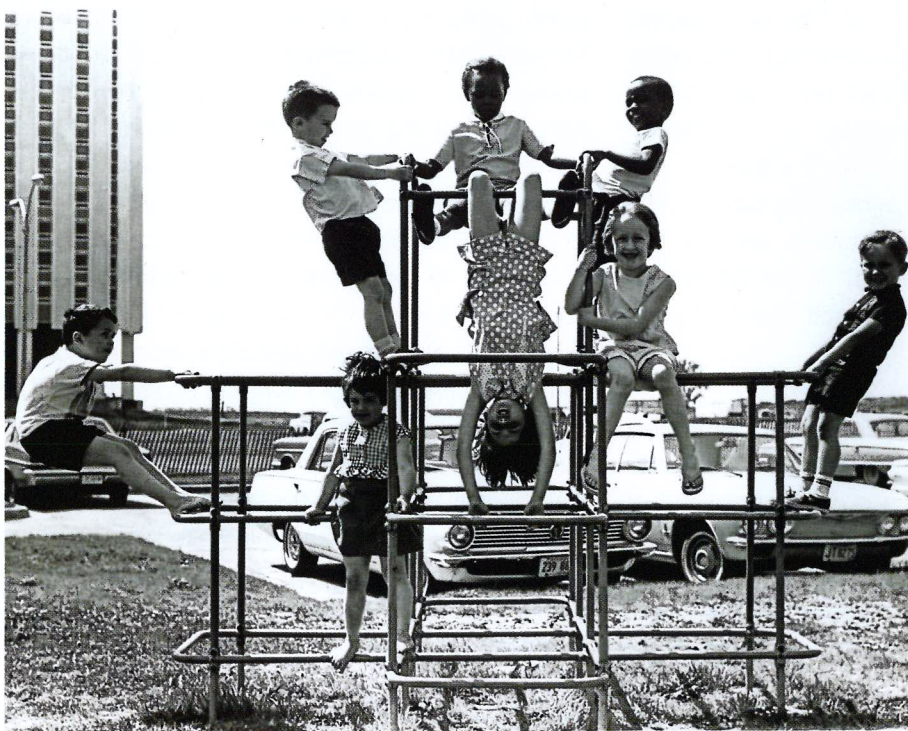
It was through the extraordinary efforts of so many wonderful people that Makena was able to secure her Visa to travel to the United States, which changed the trajectory of her life and that of her family.

Arrival in the U.S.

When Makena arrived in the U.S., she joined her Mom and Dad, and her younger brother, Mutuma, who was born in America in 1961. Makena had very little knowledge of English when she arrived, but adjusted very quickly to her new surroundings. Makena was very proud of her brother Mutuma and her brother was also very proud and protective of his big sister. It was Mutuma who assisted Makena in gaining fluency in English and within no time at all, she had acquired an American accent.

She was very proud of her brother and her brother was eager to teach her English, within 6 months Makena caught up with English and even acquired American accent





Makena and her brother Mutuma. Upon arrival in USA, she adjusted to campus life where the Marangu's were the only African family in the neighbourhood they lived in. This did not prevent their children from having normal social lives.

Growing up and early leadership

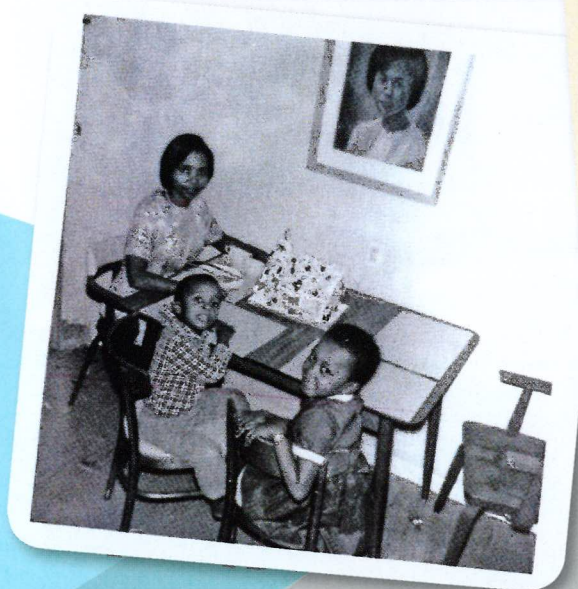
The Marangu family lived at the NIU married students housing complex, so during her early years in the U.S., Makena lived in an environment where her family were the only Africans in the neighborhood. This was not particularly surprising considering her father and mother had left Kenya before independence, and there were very few Africans at that time who had managed to go to the U.S.

Makena built confidence very quickly in her new surroundings, and soon began to excel in all the activities she engaged in, both in and out of school. Makena represented her class at both her church's Sunday School Bible Quizzes, and at her school's Science Fair and Musical Compe-

titions. In terms of school work, Makena was always the best in her class.

In September 1966, the Marangus, who by this time was a family of 4, moved to Iowa State University where they lived on campus at the married student housing complex. Makena was 7 years old then, but she was still very sociable, and was able to win the hearts of other children in the neighborhood. Soon after, another brother, Kimathi, was born. This was followed by brother, Peter in 1970.

As the first born of the Marangu family, Makena took the lead and paved the way for her brothers. She was also a consistent organizer for the local community's young people, and she was respected by the parents in the neighborhood to give leadership to their children.



Academic aptitude & musical prowess of Makena

Throughout her entire academic life in the U.S., Makena attended school, always being the only African in her classes. Very early on however, Makena showed signs of strong academic aptitude and musical prowess. Soon after she arrived in the U.S., Makena quickly established herself at the top of her primary school classes first at the DeKalb Primary School and later in Ames, Iowa.

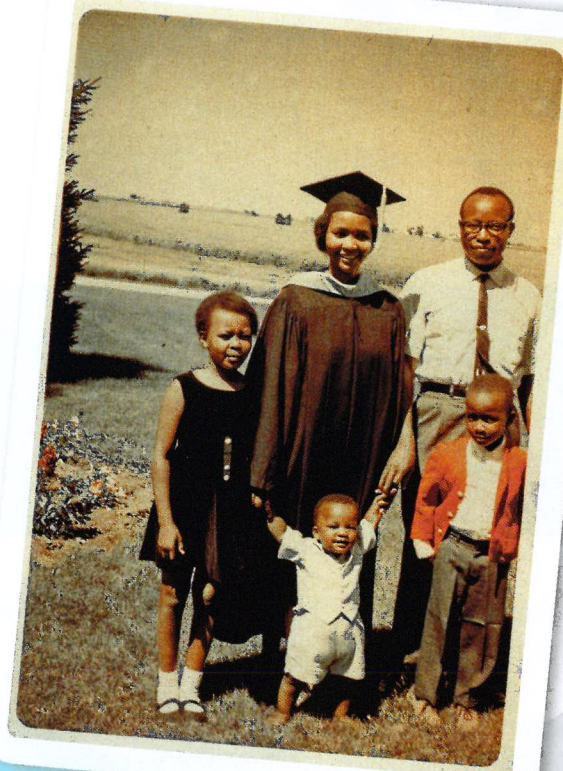
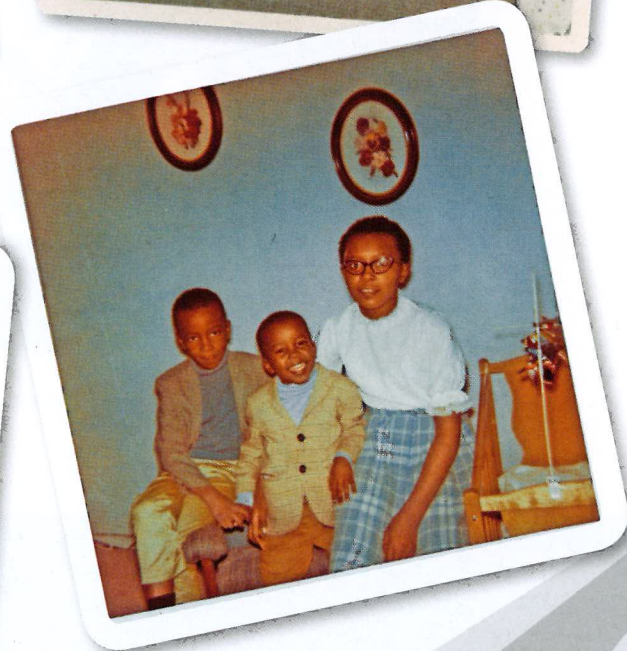
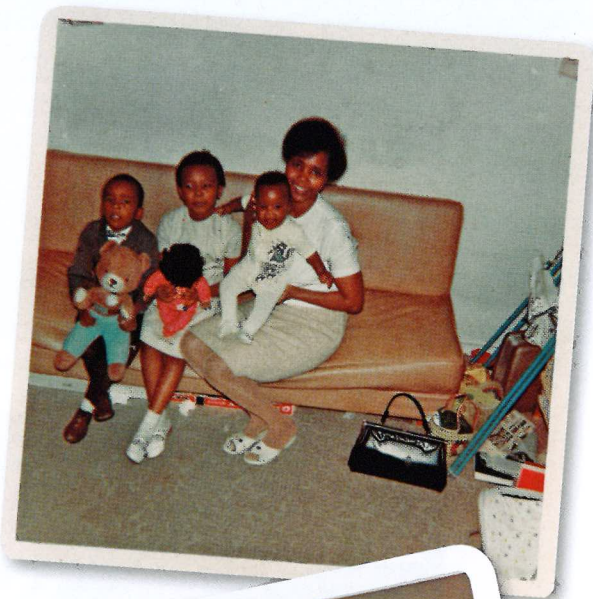
It was also during this time that Makena developed an ever growing interest in both the arts and sciences, which were acknowledged by her primary school in Bourbonnais, and she graduated with Honor Roll classification from Alan B. Shepard School in 1972. Makena excelled in sciences, and she won multiple science project awards. Her father fondly recalls spending many

long hours working together with Makena in his science lab at Reed Hall. In addition to her interests in the sciences, Makena also was an accomplished musician, playing the clarinet in the highly competitive Concert Band.

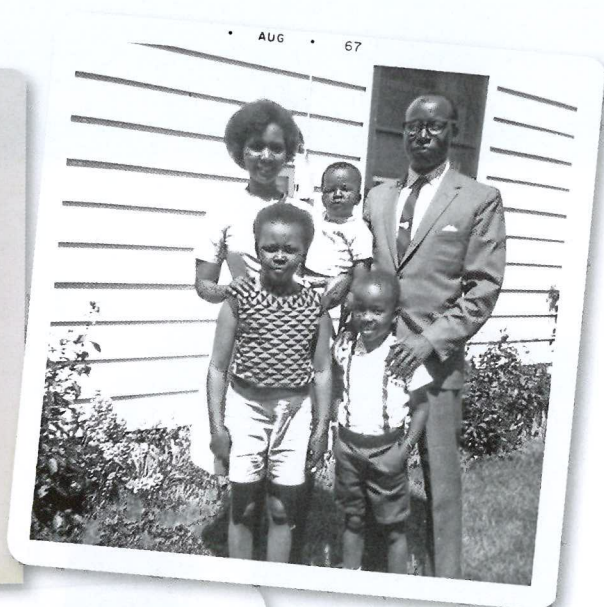
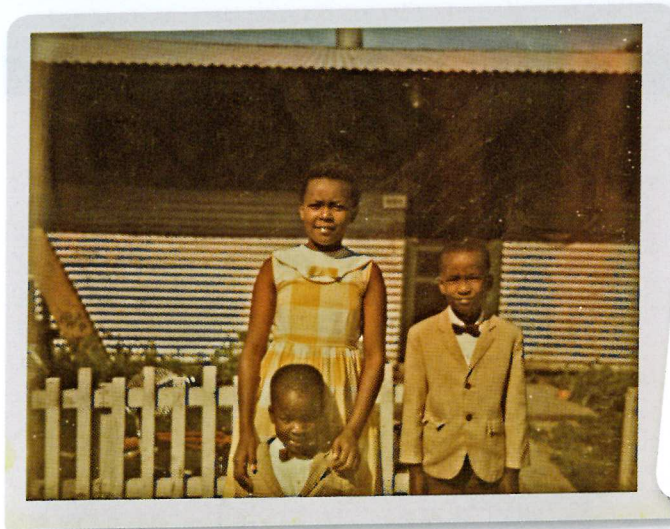
Makena continued to excel in both her academics and music at Bradley Bourbonnais Community High School in 1976, where she participated in the Concert and Marching Bands. She accelerated her high school education to receive a Diploma in three years instead of the regular four years and once again she graduated with academic honours. She then enrolled at Olivet Nazarene University and received a faculty beneficial scholarship, as her father was a professor in the biology department.



Move to Iowa State University



Marangu family at Iowa State University



Her career choice

Makena developed a strong interest in medicine very early in her life. She knew that her mother began her career as a nurse, and that her Dad had studied pre-med for his first degree at Olivet Nazarene University. At first Makena wanted to become a nurse like her mother but Makena's mother succeed in persuading her to pursue a medical degree since

Makena was better placed to study medicine than her parents.

Makena agreed that a medical degree would also give her better opportunities to serve people and enrolled in Pre-med studies at Olivet Nazarene University where her father was a faculty member. There Makena was able to take courses from

her father during her first year in university. After Makena's family moved back to Kenya, Olivet was kind enough to extend to her a faculty beneficiary scholarship even though her Dad was no longer a faculty member.

At University Makena was very responsible and continued to show her maturity. She was given the job of Dorm Mother, where she managed other students that were even more senior to her. Makena performed her duties very well, and despite her young age and again, despite being the only African in the dorm, she was very respected and loved by Olivet Nazarene University faculty, staff, and students. As in her high school years, during her university school breaks, Makena did other jobs as well, including one summer she went to de-tassel corn from a farm experimental station. Makena also managed to find time to work as a

sales person at the Sears, Roebuck department store in Kankakee.

In 1980, Makena graduated from Olivet Nazarene University with a BA degree in Zoology with Magna Cum Laude academic honors. While she was a student at Olivet Nazarene University Makena also received several other awards and honors including:

Who's Who Among Student in American Colleges and Universities; International Youth in Achievement Award; Phi Delta Lambda, Scholastic Honor Society; Sigma Tau Delta, English Honor Society; and The National Register of Outstanding College Graduates in America



Makena with Dr. Bowling president of Olivet Nazarene University, at one of the award ceremonies at Washington D.C.



Makena with brother Kimathi and Dad at the award ceremony at Washington D.C..

Makena immediately continued with her post graduate academics, in Washington, D.C., where she went to Howard University, studying Physiol-

ogy in 1981, followed in quick succession by an International Fellowship in International Development at American University, in 1982.

Makena was left at the age of 18 in her second year at Olivet Nazarene University, together with her Uncle Cornelius Muthuri, who had graduated from Olivet Nazarene University and was studying for his Masters degree at the University of Illinois – Champaign Urbana; the late Uncle Steven Mutuma, who was studying hotel management at Joliet Junior College, and the late Uncle Joe Kaburu who was studying Bakery Technology at Dunwoody Institute in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Makena, Mutuma, Kimathi and Peter's 'U.S. Grandparents', the late Mr. Edgar and Mrs. Ruth Johnson, who were very close to the Marangu family, lived in Kankakee, and throughout her time at Olivet Nazarene University the Johnsons kept close contact and provided valuable support to Makena and her Uncles.



Edgar and Ruth Johnson, the Marangu children's 'U.S. Grandparents' who watched over Makena and her Uncles when Marangus returned to Kenya.



Edgar and Ruth, With Makena at brother Mutuma's Graduation.



Edgar and Ruth, With Makena at Uncle Muthuri's Graduation.



Makena with Uncle Steve at his graduation



Makena With Uncle Corn, Uncle Steve, Uncle Joe and cousin Japhet

Makena was then admitted to medical school at the Medical College of Virginia [MCV] in Richmond, Virginia. Makena successfully attended MCV, participating in the role of Chairman of African Famine Relief at MCV in 1983. From 1983 - 1985, Makena was President of the Student Medical Society of the Medical Society of Virginia, and she also received a Fellowship from the United States Agency for International Development and the World Council of Churches.

In 1987, Makena was honored as a member of the Alpha Sigma Chi Leadership Fraternity at MCV and named a Reader's Digest International Fellow, in the Medical Assistant Program.

Makena graduated from Medical College of Virginia with an M.D. degree in 1987.

After graduation from MCV, Makena continued to receive recognition and many honors, including but not limited to:

- 1989, Young Women Achievers Award, National Council of Women;
- 1989, Honorary Fellow, International Reed Institute for the Advanced Study of Leadership;
- 1993, F. Edward Johnson Outstanding Achievement in Service to Children Award, African Development Foundation. Presented at the National Museum of African Art/Smithsonian, Washington, D.C.



Makena graduates from Medical College of Virginia



Graduation Portrait

Professional medical practice

*A*fter completing her medical degree from MCV, Makena continued with the following Post Doctoral Degree programs:

1987 – 1992, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, Newark, NJ; General & Trauma Surgery Residency.

1992 – 1993, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA; Joseph H. Boyes Foundation, Hand Surgery Fellowship.

1993 – 1995, University of California, Irvine, CA; Plastic Surgery Residency.

1995 – 1996, Associate Jeffrey Allan Klein M.D.; Tumescant Liposuction Surgery

Makena set up her medical private practice in Plastic Surgery and Age Management Medicine in California in 1996 – 2015.

Makena's medical outreach

*M*akena's medical outreach from California was wide and far reaching, especially via her featured weekly 'Doctor to Doctor' programme on cable television's Trinity Broadcast Network [TBN], which was seen around the world and particularly in Kenya from 2000 – 2004.

In 2001, she hosted a daily, hour long, local radio show on KHPY (1530 AM), entitled, 'The Wellness Hour with Dr. Makena.'

Philanthropic work

Makena was interested in philanthropy very early in life, showing great organization, compassion and aptitude in helping others in need of assistance. At the age of 15, there was a fund drive in the community of Bourbonnais, Illinois, where she lived. Makena raised the most funds and was awarded a bicycle for her efforts. Makena was several times the leading fundraiser of campaigns, developing a fearless, willing attitude to ask on behalf of those in need.

Immediately after graduation from Medical College of Virginia in 1987, Makena led a team of her medical colleagues and professors to come to Kenya and do a project called 'Operation Kids' at the Kenyatta National Hospital [KNH] in Nairobi. Makena was very engaged and hands on in the project, and she surprised many people when she went and bought paint and brushes, and painted a dilapidated theater at the hospital before her colleagues arrived from the U.S.

The team of American doctors that Makena sponsored for 'Operation Kids' consisted of plastic surgeons and reconstructive specialists, and they performed many surgeries on children at KNH to repair cleft lip and palate deformities; club feet; post-polio orthopedic conditions and severe burns.

'Operation Kids' had enormous positive impact, and resulted in the elimination of a waiting list for these surgeries at Kenyatta National Hospital that was in excess of two years. As part of 'Operation Kids', Makena also personally secured 8 tons of donated medical supplies and equipment that was shipped from Europe to Africa.

In 1990, Makena founded 'SAIDIA for Children of Africa'. SAIDIA is a non-profit organization providing surgical aid to children of Africa. Makena founded 'SAIDIA for Children of Africa' with Dr. Richard Leakey.

Most recently, Makena founded a charity called 'Answer Africa' in 2006. A non-profit organization in the U.S., "Answer Africa" is dedicated to the eradication of malaria in Africa. From September 2006 through September 2015, Answer Africa has raised funding and donated medical supplies, medical equipment and microscopes valued at over \$600,000 as well as an additional \$700,000 raised to provide over 200,000 mosquito nets to rural areas and villages in Kenya.

Makena donates Medical supplies to Abogeta Health Center, in South Imenti, Meru County in one of her numerous visits to the beneficiaries of her compassion



VCU TODAY

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VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY

MAY 6, 1987

Physicians Volunteer Services to Children in Kenya

Seven physicians from MCV Hospitals have volunteered to provide surgical and medical services to Kenyan children. Operation Kids, Kenya International Development Surgery, is a collaborative effort between MCV Hospitals, the University of Nairobi School of Medicine, and the Christian Children's Fund.

Through Operation Kids, which takes place at the Kenyatta National Hospital May 23 through June 15, 200 children will receive treatment for cleft lip and palate, burn deformities, and polio-related orthopedic problems.

The details of the project were announced at a news conference April 28 by Dr. Stephen Ayers, dean of the School of Medicine; Dr. Austin Mehrhof, assistant chairman of the Department of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery; L. Douglas Wilder, lieutenant governor of Virginia; and Makena Marangu, a Kenyan who will receive her M.D. from VCU on May 16.

The idea for Operation Kids evolved from initial contacts between Mehrhof, the Christian Children's Fund, and the Division of Plastic Surgery of the University of Nairobi. The Christian Children's Fund knew of a need for corrective surgery among the children it serves in Kenya. When the organization contacted the University of Nairobi, they were informed that there is a significant need for pediatric plastic and reconstructive surgery there.

The volunteer physicians from MCV Hospitals are plastic surgeons Dr. Joseph Boykin, Dr. Arthur Simon, Dr. David Turner, and Mehrhof; orthopedic surgeon Dr. Mark deBlois; and anesthesiologist Dr. Michael Estes. Marangu is also part of the team. University of Nairobi

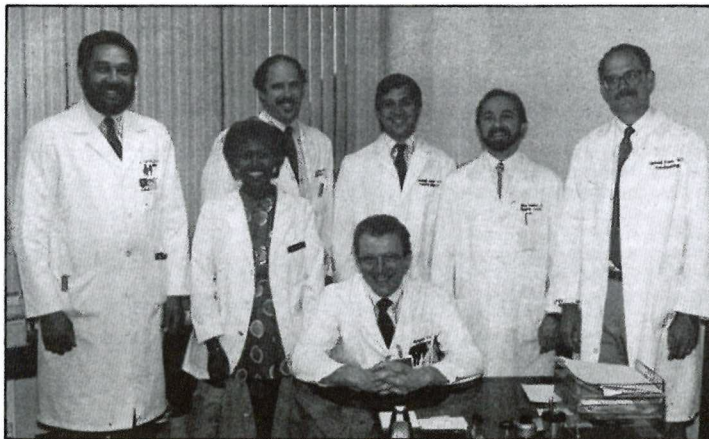
physicians who will work with Operation Kids are Dr. Mbalu, Dr. Ghalie, Dr. Banjari, Dr. Faya, Dr. Andhoga, and Dr. Kyambi.

Kenyatta National Hospital is a 2000-bed hospital located in Nairobi, Kenya. The hospital is mandated to serve as the national referral hospital, to provide facilities for teaching, and to provide facilities for medical research.

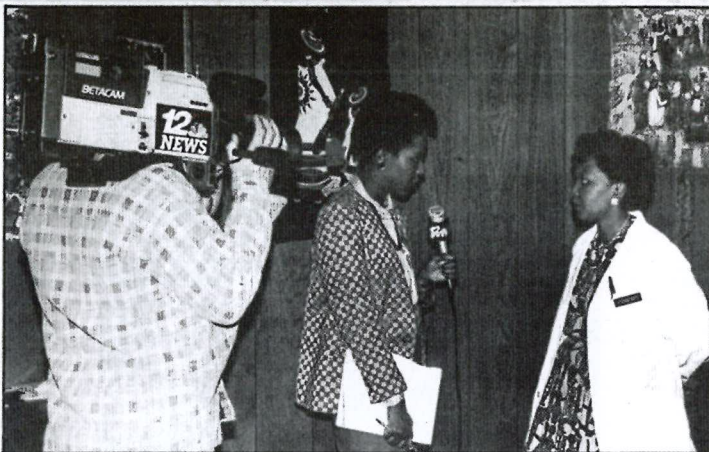
Because Operation Kids surgeries will be in addition to the normal surgical case load at Kenyatta National Hospital, the hospital has made available two wards and three operating rooms. The Rotary Club of Nairobi has been instrumental in assisting Operation Kids and the hospital in preparing the two wards to accommodate the additional influx of children during this project.

Planning for the trip has been aided by a number of American medical supply companies. More than 35 companies have donated over 12,000 pounds of equipment and supplies to Operation Kids. The supplies will be flown via Air France to Paris and then on to Nairobi. These donations allow the Operation Kids team to perform surgery without being a burden to Kenyatta National Hospital.

While there are many voluntary projects providing surgical services overseas, Operation Kids is unique in its emphasis on education. All of the physicians involved, both Kenyan and American, will participate in this aspect as they exchange ideas and techniques in the operating room, in daily seminars, and in weekly case studies. There is hope among all involved that the relationship begun through Operation Kids will continue.



"Operation Kids" will have seven physicians from VCU volunteering to provide surgical and medical services to Kenyan children. Pictured here, seated, is Dr. Austin Mehrhof, and standing, left to right, are Dr. Joseph Boykin, Makena Marangu, Dr. Mark deBlois, Dr. Arthur Simon, Dr. David Turner, and Dr. Michael Estes.



Makena Marangu, right, is interviewed at the news conference by Sabrina Squire, co-anchor of WWBT's "The Scene Tonight."

Delivery of Mail Almost Back to Normal

It has been tough going for University Mail Services the past few months. An unusually high turnover rate among employees on the MCV Campus coupled with the bad weather in January and February resulted in some delays in processing mail, but according to Donald C. Moore, director of business services for VCU, most of the mail operation is now back to normal.

"Since December, we have had 70 percent turnover in our mail service staff," says Moore. "Add to that the fact that the university was closed for several days due to snow, and the fact that some new equipment did not work properly, and you can begin to see the problems we have been facing."

During the recruiting process to fill the vacant positions, other staff of University Mail Services and temporary employees helped process the enormous workload, according to William O. McCleney, manager of University Mail Services.

"Our employees are working 10-hour days and weekends to help catch up," says McCleney. "We have now hired new employees to fill the vacant positions, but the training process is slow, and it takes a while for new employees to become familiar with the process."

Both Moore and McCleney report that most of the mail services are now back

to normal. First class mail, incoming and outgoing metered mail, and campus mail are now current and have been for some time. The only mail that is behind at this point is the third class mail (magazines, newspapers, and other non-priority mail), according to McCleney.

"We would be in even better shape if university faculty and staff would only take the time to properly address their mail," says McCleney. "The majority of the mail we handle is addressed with just a name and a street address or a name and a department, and that

simply isn't enough information to get it to its destination."

McCleney adds that all mail is sorted and delivered by box number. To ensure prompt delivery of mail, the address must include the name, department, and box number. Incorrectly addressed mail has a dramatic impact on the speed of the entire process and is the last of the priority mail to be sorted and delivered.

"Correctly addressing mail means one thing," says McCleney. "It means your mail will get there faster."

The story appeared in the Virginia Commonwealth University Newspaper on May 6th, 1987.

The surgeons with hands of friendship

By OTULU OWUOR

The way most of us know it, the medical profession is one of the most noble and selfless professions in the world. It is a profession of the good work, of the noblest of motives. It is a profession of the noblest of motives. It is a profession of the noblest of motives.

Under this programme, highly skilled surgeons from the United States, Canada and other countries are working in Kenya to share their knowledge and experience with the local medical professionals. They are also providing medical equipment and supplies to the hospitals.



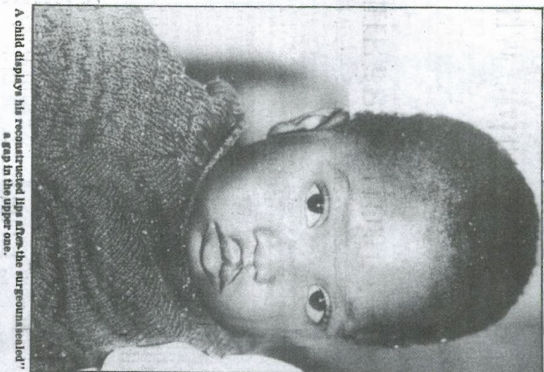
The surgeons in action. They hope to conduct 300 operations and are spending at least eight hours in the theatre daily.

The people who put it all back together again

By SUNDAY NATION

Reporter

The people who put it all back together again. They are the surgeons who have dedicated their lives to the service of humanity. They are the people who have put it all back together again.



A child displays her reconstructed lips after the surgeons finished a job in the upper one.

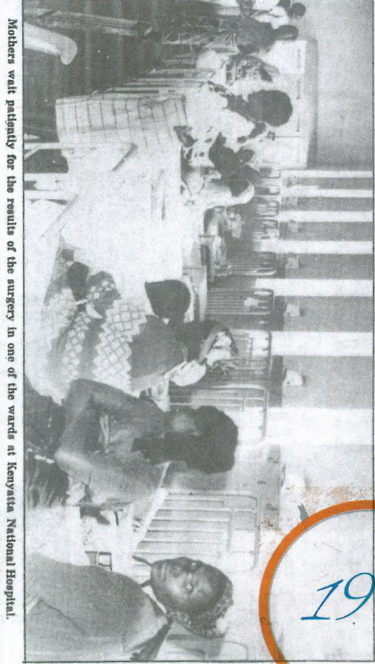
When will the world have a universal language?

By Special Correspondent

It was in July, 1987, that a young girl from Shauri Moyo, Tumo Japohumbi, is happy to discover that she can now hear and speak freely after an operation. With her 5 Dr. Makena Makena.



A stitch here and a pull there all as that child may really again.



Mothers wait patiently for the results of the surgery in one of the wards at Kenyatta National Hospital.

Win big prizes in the

SEWING CONTEST

89

The visiting doctors' story was first featured in Nairobi in the Sunday Nation on May 31, 1987.

- ING MACHINES
- ING KITS
- COURSES
- MACHINE
- ER COOKER

to all Standard Seven students who have completed their school work. To receive from your teacher.

Contest to run from 20th July 1987 to 31st July 1987. All entries to be received in later than 15th August 1987.

In conjunction with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology and the Canadian High Commission

Makena together with her husband Eng. Craig donated wheelchairs as part of their dedication to helping the needy.



Eng. Craig brought medical supplies for donation while Makena was in the hospital, in the U.S.



Between her hospitalization Makena came back to visit the communities where she had donated mosquito nets and medicines. Here she meets with leaders of the areas.



Makena the great organizer

Makena always worked very hard to make others happy, and she enjoyed interacting with people. Makena was also innovative in how she approached her projects. Her mother remembers fondly how at 15 years of age, Makena organized her mother's friends on the Campus of Iowa State University to do a surprise birthday party for her mother. The birthday party not only surprised Makena's mother, but also surprised and impressed those who attended it.

Makena was also very helpful in assisting her mother in organizing her younger brothers, Mutuma, Kimathi and Peter, especially during her high school summer holidays.

One summer, Makena's mother was able to convince the Iowa State University Play School group to engage Makena as one of their staff members taking care of the younger kids.

Makena enjoyed her mother's company

Makena always enjoyed the company of her mother. They both enjoyed doing projects together. At the age of 14, her mother realized that she needed to find a hobby that would interest Makena and help her to grow through her adolescent years. Her mother found out about some arts and crafts courses at a Kankakee Community College, and took a jewelry making night course. Makena's mother then asked her relatives in Kenya to send African beads to the U.S. so both Makena and her could design, make and sell, very unique, custom-made jewelry. This jewelry became a money making project when her mother's colleagues began to order their custom-made jewelry from Makena and her mother. Makena and her mother's custom-made jewelry gained interest and notoriety, which was even covered in articles in the local newspapers. The coverage inspired many young people to find

hobbies that contributed to the productive use of their time.

In the summers during Makena's high school years, when Makena's mother was working on completing her Ph.D at Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa and her father and Uncle Cornelius Muthuri were building their first family home in Bourbonnais, Illinois, Makena and her brothers assisted their mother in the sale of Fuller Brush Products and Amway. The sale of these products were sold door to door in the Ames, Iowa university community. This activity gave Makena and her brothers the opportunity to learn and practice easily interacting with people of different races, religions and socio – economic classes as she moved door to door.

Makena's mother later hosted Mary Kay Cosmetic parties, alongside their custom made jewelry

Crafted jewelry shows native African flair

By VIRGINIA PORTER
Journal writer

Diamonds may be best friends of many young women but for now Jean Marangu prefers stones, shells, and beads. With these and other materials she handcrafts African costume jewelry.

Jean, 14-year old daughter of Dr. and Mrs. John Marangu, 454 Francis St., Bourdonnais, as a hobby, designs and makes earrings, bracelets, pins, and necklaces like those worn in her native Kenya, Africa. She also specializes in custom-made jewelry.

Her designs, with no two alike unless by request, are intricately strung on gold or silver chains or wire and can complement casual, dress, sport, and some evening wear. For special occasions she and her mother wear the jewelry to complement their native costumes.

The designs, Jean says, take form as she works with the materials. Those she thinks are highly unusual or attractive she sometimes makes into matching sets of earrings, bracelets, and necklaces.

Mrs. Marangu started her daughter in jewelry making so Jean would spend her free time creatively. Now both say they enjoy the togetherness the hobby has generated. Jean says the hobby is occasionally a money-maker.

Jean came to this country as an infant when her parents began their studies at Olivet Nazarene College, Bourdonnais. Her mother teaches at Dr. Martin Luther King Upper Grade Center and her father, Dr. Marangu, is associate professor of biological sciences at Olivet. She has four brothers.

In addition to her jewelry making Jean is also active in community, church, and civic affairs.

Journal photos by Vernon Brezolt



Jewelry completes African attire

at her home, activities that Makena showed interest in participating in as well. Involvement in all these activities contributed to Makena's ability to positively interact with people, to mature to be a responsible person and assisted her in the development of interpersonal skills, which would

provide an important future preparation for her professional life as a medical doctor. People always complimented Makena in her youth, saying that she displayed a level of maturity well above that of her age mates.

The coverage as it appeared in the dailies in Kankakee



Picture Story

Growing Up













Makena was very sociable



Makena's UN Events



Pride in her roots

Makena loved and was proud of her African culture and would ask her mother to make her African clothes, which she wore very proudly. Makena always identified with African culture, arts and crafts. This love of arts and crafts came in very handy when her parents and brothers, Mutuma, Kimathi and Peter went home to Kenya in 1977. In the 1970s, Kenyans were not allowed to exchange Kenya Shillings into U.S. Dollars.

Her parents therefore used to send her arts and crafts, especially the sisal 'Kenya bags', which became very popular at that time in USA. Makena, who was by then an astute entrepreneur, managed to sell them to her fellow students and make her pocket money, while continuing to excel in her academic studies.

Portraits of Makena





Portrait of Makena by late Mrs. Ruth Johnson



Fondness for her Grandmother

*M*akena had a special relationship with her Grandmother Isabella M'Mbui. She participated regularly with many events that took place at the village where her grandmother lived, and she very easily identified with the local people.

When her grandmother passed away in 2010, she took the role of dressing her for her funeral, and made sure her grandmother had a fitting send off.





Makena married love of her life, Eng. Craig Hacche on August 11, 1999 in California, USA. They had a celebration and a blessing of their marriage in Nairobi on Sept 11, 1999.

to make the best of their circumstances by engaging in philanthropic work and also touring around the world. Craig stood by Makena until the minute God called her.

Despite Makena's illness during the last 10 years of their marriage, Makena and Craig were determined

















Makena's life was strongly characterized by her consistent eagerness and commitment to helping others in need, whether they were people she knew, or others who lived thousands of miles away from her. Makena was a trailblazer and an inspiration to many. Makena's commitment to excellence and her determination to succeed in everything she did enabled her to achieve the pinnacle of her profession, and become Kenya's first female plastic surgeon. She was unafraid to venture into new activities, be it hosting a local radio program in the U.S., or being featured on a TV show seen around the world. Makena used her medical skills and organizational talent to accomplish huge, beneficial projects, and she contributed enormously to those in need especially on the African continent.

Makena showed the same determination that led her to achieve so much when she bravely battled her cancer illness until the end. Her brave battle and career accomplishments greatly inspired the doctors and nurses who treated her at the Mayo Clinic.

She will be greatly missed by family and friends around the world.

May her soul rest in eternal peace.

TRIBUTE FOR MAKENA

I received a call from Dr. Makena Marangu in early 1994 while serving as the Ambassador/Permanent Representative of Kenya to the United Nations in New York. She told me that she had completed her residency for medicine and that she wanted to come to talk to me about an NGO she had started to assist African Children who needed surgery for restoration of their deformed lips. I got to know her easily as I had known about her parents Professors John and Leah Marangu who were prominent & pioneer scholars from Meru County where I was born and brought up. I gave her an appointment to come for discussion.

When she came to see me, she talked about cosmetic surgery which was not very much known in Africa, and her ambitious project aimed at mobilizing US doctors who were willing to volunteer their time to travel to Africa to render surgical services and treatment to the needy children. She was very passionate about what she wanted to do. She was like a missionary guided by Divine powers. She told me that she had doctor friends who were interested in volunteering regular trips to Africa to assist the needy. Furthermore she had spoken to several American companies producing medical supplies as well as institutions with good equipment and drugs willing to donate to needy people in Africa. She was very persuasive and wanted results or at least, a commitment immediately. She had so much passion and energy that I found her very convincing and genuine in whatever she was saying. Above all, she was very articulate and intelligent.

She further asked me whether I could assist her to organize a fundraising dinner at the United Nations Headquarters, Delegates Dining Hall, to raise funds for her NGO, "Operation Smile". This was obviously a challenging request because the venue was very sensitive venue as it was mainly used by UN Member States for their diplomatic functions. Private functions were only allowed under thorough vetting and on sponsorship of a Member State or an accredited body. Nevertheless, I agreed to assist because of her persuasiveness and the potential benefits the project would bring to the African Children.

We both secured the venue and invited guests with good results. She made a passionate presentation about the needy African Children in Ghana, Kenya and Senegal. She was mobilizing her colleague doctors, the international community, diplomats and corporates to make their contributions to change the lives of the needy African Children. Subsequently she and her friends made trips to Africa to assist.

Later on, when I became Head of Public Service of Kenya in 2003, Makena called me to inform me that she had met a friend in America who wanted to build a hospital in Kenya to provide health services to those who needed it most. We identified a health Centre in Ongata Rongai for development into a hospital. Ongata Rongai, being only twenty kilometers South West of Nairobi, is a cosmopolitan town with a huge segment of low income population. We did a lot of preliminary work for the project, but unfortunately, the deteriorating health of Makena's friend prevented us from continuing with the project.

Many requests came from Makena to me to facilitate entry clearances for medicinal equipments and drugs destined for various towns of Kenya. No time did Makena come to Kenya without medical supplies. She was highly valued by many rural hospitals and health centers she helped. Many children and other patients benefited immensely without knowing Makena and unaware of her per-

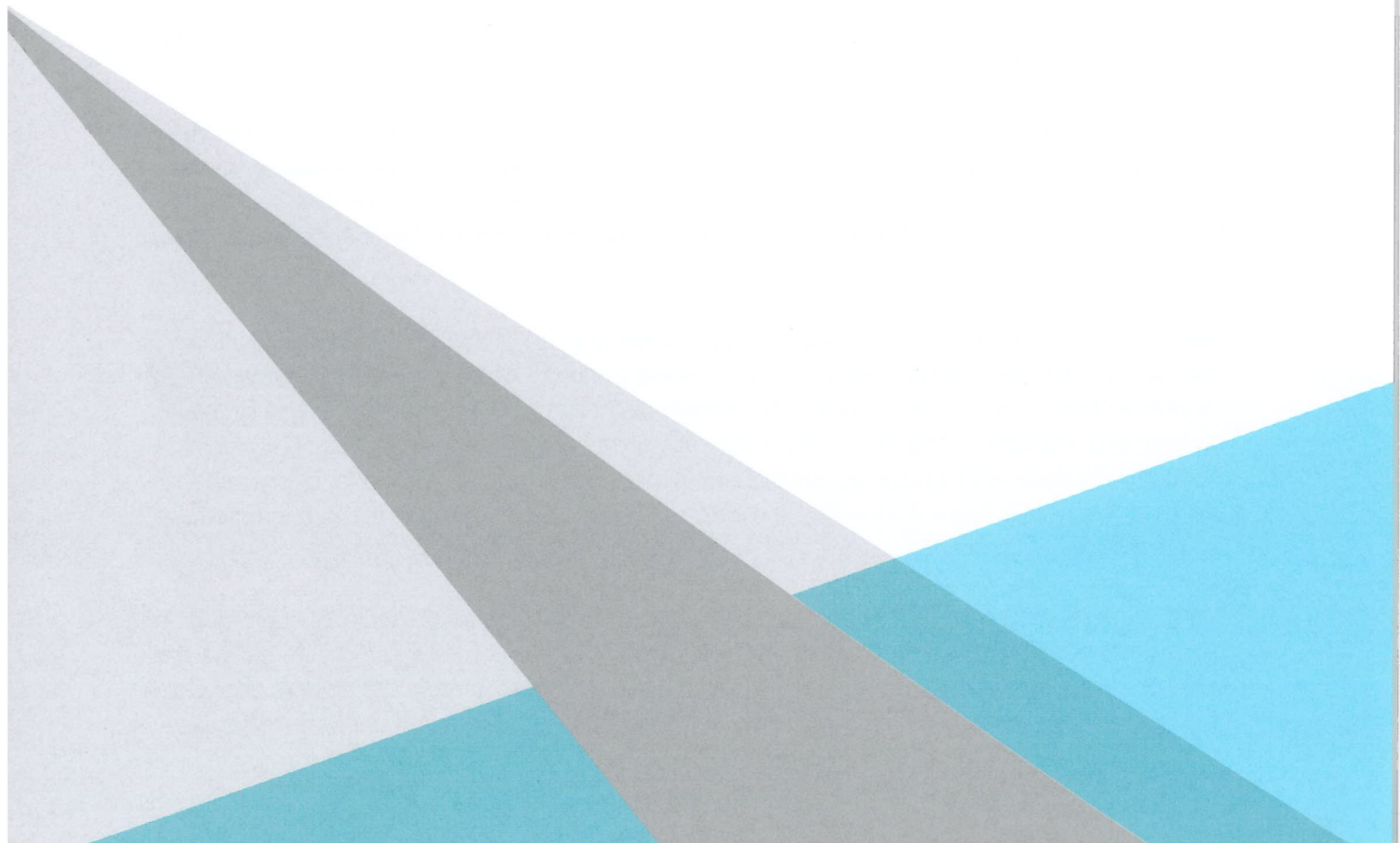
sistent effort, generosity and passion to serve humanity.

When my wife and I got to know that Makena was seriously unwell despite what she was doing, it was difficult to believe or come to accept the mystery of life. Makena had brought her family to our house in New York. We had bonded and become very good friends. She came to introduce her husband, Craig, to us in our house in Ongata Rongai. She was ever present and full of ideas mainly to serve society, especially those unable to access proper medical care. Any time she came to Kenya, either alone or with her husband, we were invited to her parents' home to share meals and ideas.

Last time we met her at the parents' home, she had come from up country distributing medical supplies to hospitals and health centers in Meru. That was her last mission. She was very happy to meet us and she was even more happy to have made another round of what she had wanted to do most – to treat the sick and give them a healthier and happier life.

Makena's impact on humanity will outlive all of us. Her passion to serve, her generosity, and kindness and love for humanity are values which matter most in human and future life.

Amb. Francis K. Muthaura, EGH
November, 2015



TRIBUTE IN MEMORY OF DR. MAKENA MARANGU

I am most honored to pay tribute to Dr. Makena Marangu, an exceptional volunteer, a medical doctor per excellence, a mentor, a lover of families and a great friend who inspired and made everybody she interacted with comfortable. I and everybody who knew Makena will testify that she was great company, she related with everybody, with ease, age, or social standing notwithstanding. She is the kind of person whose company everybody would long to share with relish.

I met Makena in the early 1980's, after Prof Leah and John Marangu returned to Kenya from the U.S. They were teaching at Kenyatta University. I had just completed my high school and was staying with my sister and brother in law Rosemary and Bishop Zablon Nthamburi. Coming from Kamukara village where I had come from, I had seen few things, and in particular few educated people. I was also scared in case I breached protocol in the presence of my disciplinarian sister, so when visitors came to my sister's house who were not my kind, that is those who were not from the village, I would dash to the kitchen and take my position there.

However, when Prof Leah and John Marangu visited, and I dashed to the kitchen as usual, Auntie Leah called me and wanted to know more about me i.e. where I went to school and what I wanted to do with my life.

She actually invited me to her house and that is when I met Makena for the first time. I was so impressed by her humility and down to earth attitude towards me. Despite the fact that I, and Makena that time belonged to completely different worlds which were miles apart; She lived in America, she was a University student pursuing medicine, she was a daughter of two professors, she spoke American English and here I was, a daughter of a peasant, visiting Nairobi from the village for the first time courtesy of my sister, just a high school leaver, speaking English with a Kimeru ascent, that notwithstanding, we struck a friendship. The social distinction did not stop Makena from welcoming me to their home and showing me much appreciation as she engaged me and even invited me to join her in the kitchen and she showed me how to bake a cake. She told me about life in America and that got me thinking of how it would be possible for me also to visit the U.S. As they say my dream of visiting the U. S. the rest is history as I do that every year. This warm embrace by Makena whom I looked up to as a young teenage girl had a significant impact in my life.

As years went by, I kept following this family of Prof Leah and John Marangu and the great work Makena was doing following the footsteps of great parents. She was a fiercely independent person and nothing would distract her from achieving her dream. She remained in the U.S. After her parents returned to Kenya, where she relentlessly pursued her career in medicine rising to the pinnacle, MD specializing in Plastic Surgery.

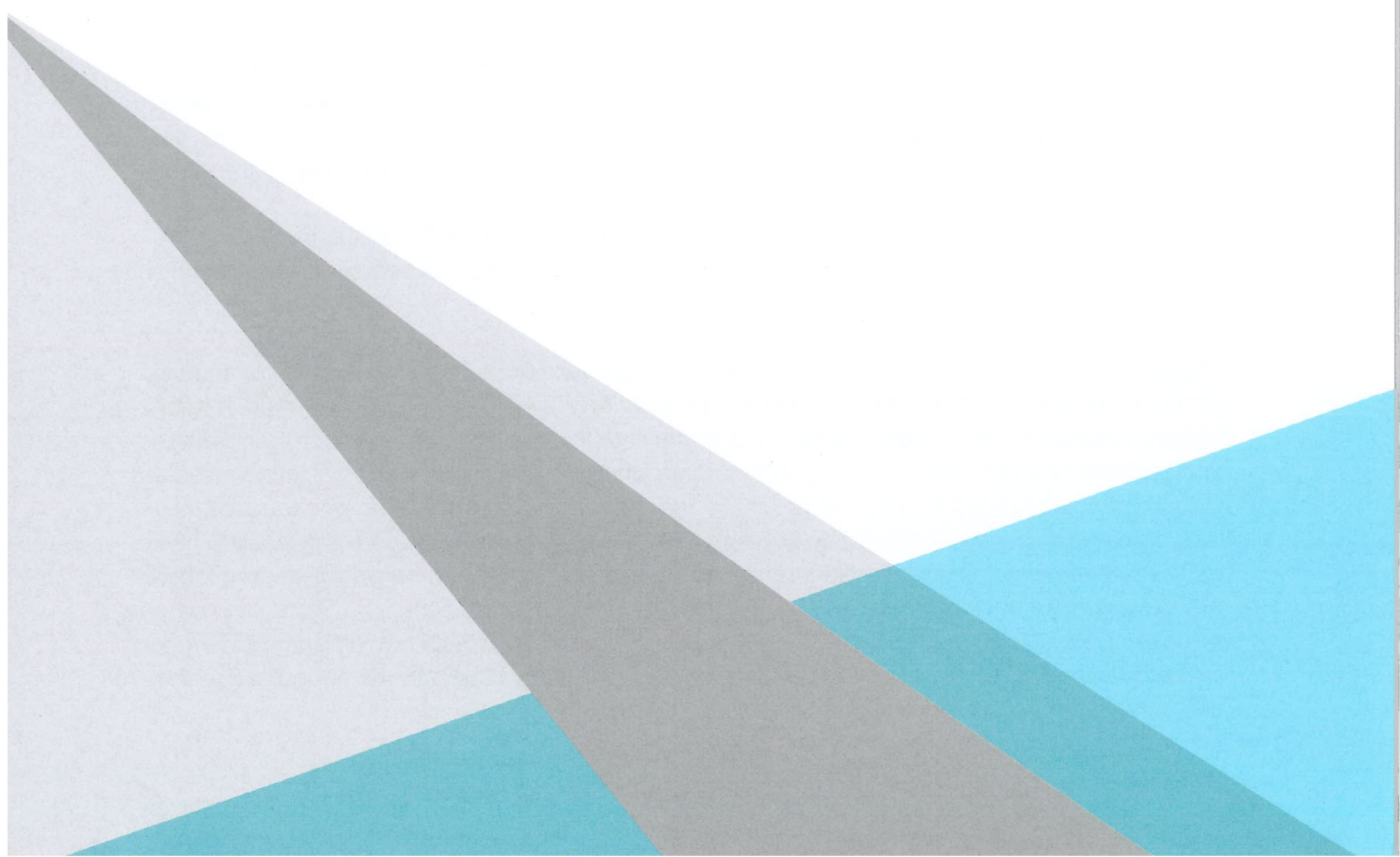
Although Makena lived and worked in the U.S where she had her own Medical Clinic, She remained so intimately connected to her family in Kenya and completely identified with the health and social problems of our people in Kenya.

Makena took up the challenge of doing something to alleviate the suffering of our people and did so much social and community work more than many of us who have lived and worked in Kenya. Makena organized many medical camps all over the country. She brought delegations of volunteer doctors from America who operated on thousands of children with cleft palates. She traversed this Country donating mosquito nets, wheel chairs and other medical equipments. She touched the lives of many people and families. She put a smile on the faces of many children and families. Makena's everlasting legacy, through selfless service to various communities in Kenya will endure forever. Her life reminds me of the command by our Lord Jesus Christ in Galatians 6;2 " Share each other's troubles and problems, and in this way obey the law of Christ." Through her philanthropic work, selfless giving of her professional services, talent and organizational skills to the poor and sick she truly fulfilled that command.

The last time I saw Makena was about 4 years ago during the funeral of her grandmother JUJU. She flew in from America to attend the funeral. She did a splendid job of dressing and making up the body of JUJU on her burial. You could see she brought her professional touch with tender loving care in the way she made JUJU a beautiful woman in her own right who died at the old age of over 90 years was transformed to a Princess on the day of her funeral. We people from Meru fear to view dead bodies, but everybody just wanted to stare at JUJU's beautiful body on her burial.

Makena my friend, on behalf of those who loved and admired you, those whom you touched with your kindness, I would like to say a very big thank you. You are a woman of excellence, a true servant of God and may you rest in everlasting glory with all the heavenly favors until we meet again.

Lady Justice Martha Koome
Judge of the Court of Appeal
Kenya





Henreitta & Bryant Orjiako

November 16, 2015

To The Marangu Family
Prof and Prof Mrs. Marangu

Attention: Mr. Mutuma Marangu

**CONDOLENCE MESSAGE TO COMMISERATE WITH THE
MARANGU FAMILY ON THE SAD EVENT OF THE DEMISE OF
YOUR BELOVED DAUGHTER AND SISTER, DR MAKENA
MARANGU.**

The scriptures tell us there is time for everything; time for joy and time for mourning (Ecclesiastes 3:4) Sadly, the Marangu family is undergoing a traumatic mournful period at this time, following the untimely passage to glory of your beloved daughter and our Sister Makena. The Orjiako family, your Nigerian family, share in this sorrow and we wish to convey our condolences.

I first met Makena in Ghana, November 1993 at the SAIDIA conference, following an introduction by my brother, Mutuma. Ever since then, she became a sister to me and later to my wife Henn and the entire Orjiako family. There are numerous positive attributes of this great African daughter. Her rich pedigree of the Marangu heritage prepared her firmly for the many giant strides she undertook in life. She was an achiever per excellence who distinguished herself in the medical profession to become a renowned plastic surgeon.



Hennreitta & Bryant Orjiako

Despite her great achievements and strengths in life, Makena was a very humble person. She had a rare charm and personality, which she expressed readily in service of humanity. I personally experienced Makena's selflessness and philanthropic spirit on a number of occasions when we worked together for SAIDIA in the early 90's. In every occasion, Makena gave freely of her time, efforts and talent in helping others.

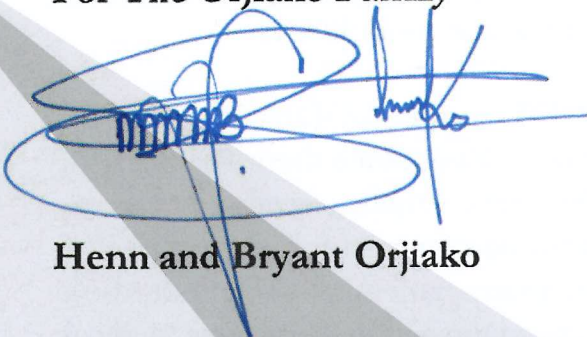
When she became sick, it was one debility too many, but she took it with divine strength. She had her laughter and good disposition through the frailty of the ailment. She remained strong till the last minutes to the glory of God.

As we mourn, we pray for fortitude to the family.

May God shine perpetual light upon Makena and grant her eternal rest.

Good Bye Makena.

With Deep Sympathy and Prayers,
For The Orjiako Family



Henn and Bryant Orjiako

TRIBUTE FOR DR. MAKENA

Every so often in life, you meet someone who rises high above the crowd and whose particular qualities of character influence you in profoundly important, even life-changing ways. Makena was just such an individual, who not only inspired me, but also many other people across the globe stretching from Africa to the USA. I was first introduced to Makena in the early 1990's by her equally extraordinary mother, when they were both working on raising funds for humanitarian programs in Kenya. Little did I know then, the degree to which I would appreciate the company and charisma of Makena throughout the ensuing years, and what a special friend she would become. And little did I know then what a powerhouse of accomplishment, energy and talent Makena already embodied – long before she had even started work as a medical doctor.

At that time, Makena had already earned her medical degree at the University of Richmond, Virginia and was well into her post-doctoral training at the University of Medicine in Newark. She was completing her general and trauma surgery residency – no small feat in of itself – while simultaneously she was spearheading a number of humanitarian medical projects. This philanthropic work was the culmination of earlier initiatives to help needy children, which had led Makena to co-found (along with Dr. Richard Leakey) an organization called SAIDIA, which was dedicated to providing surgical care to children of Africa. It's main activities were to fund and organize training workshops for up and coming paediatric surgeons in Africa, to provide scholarships to African surgeons in overseas teaching hospitals, and to provide medical supplies to local African hospitals. Makena felt that supporting the education of local doctors would make a crucial contribution towards long-term solutions for the plight of Africa's children, who due to poverty and lack of access were not receiving the medical support they needed. When asked to better explain this viewpoint Makena would often tell a particular story about a little boy who had altered her whole outlook concerning the direction of her work. I quote the story here using Makena's own words, which I have taken from a speech she gave at one of SAIDIA's fundraising events.

She says:

"One year when I was still a medical student I visited a small hospital in a remote area in Kenya, and I met a little nine year old boy called Kamau whose plight and untreated medical condition caused me to change my life. That time when I first met him he was huddled on a bed with his head wrapped in a blanket. He had been badly burned in a fire and due to lack of treatment his muscles had contracted, gluing his chin to his chest, which prevented him from lifting his head. He had been in this state for four years with no hope of change, doomed to live his life in misery and solitude. I just could not ignore his condition and also those of so many others, so I vowed to find a way to help.

Later, I arranged for a group of seven surgeons to come to Kenya and work alongside other African surgeons to operate on Kamau and others who suffered from such burn contractures and other deformities. I had the great joy of seeing Kamau's life transformed. He was able to go back to school, begin an education and embark on the path of a healthy, happy life. On our trip we helped scores of children, but sadly, hundreds were turned away and I realized then that we needed to work toward long term solutions to reinforce and help expand existing local medical training".

Makena devoted an extraordinary amount of energy and creativity into making SAIDIA succeed, and it quickly became a vibrant and productive foundation with two bases – one in Kenya and one in Ghana. Makena not only reached out to doctors in leading hospitals in the US and Africa to contribute their expertise, but she also organized a variety of the fund-raising events in high profile venues in New York. To achieve such successes, Makena had to work superhuman hours, and a quick story here will give you an idea of the many balls she used to juggle at any given time – a characteristic she would exhibit throughout her life. On this particular occasion, Makena had asked me to help her plan an important fund-raising event, to which I of course happily agreed. However I soon

discovered this meant driving in the dead of night from New York City to the main Newark- New Jersey hospital where Makena was on duty in the ER department. Makena's idea was that we could squeeze in planning sessions in-between the arrival of medical emergencies! Effectively, that night Makena oscillated between saving a few lives, making long-distance SAIDIA-related calls to Kenya and Ghana, and planning the logistics of a major New York event, all in a days work between mid-night and 6am. After her night shift she would then grab a few hours sleep before studying all day long, only to begin the night shift again.

A quick mention of some of the details of Makena's SAIDIA work will give you an idea of the rich texture of her life at that time. The Kenya SAIDIA operation worked closely with Professor Julius Kyambi, Chairman of Paediatric Surgery at the University of Nairobi's Medical School. For example, in 1992 over 120 physicians from African countries attended an Advanced Paediatric Life Support Course, given by visiting US paediatric surgeons from The Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore. The course taught state-of-the-art techniques in managing critically injured children that could be done out in the field. Medical supplies worth over \$500,000 including specialized surgical equipment to continue with the course techniques were donated to Kenyatta Hospital. Other workshops were conducted in Ghana at the Korle Bu hospital in collaboration with Professor Archampong, Dean of the Ghana Medical School, US physicians and Carlene Sharples, SAIDIA's Executive Director. These collaborative projects were deliberately designed to be self-perpetuating and allow the spread of medical knowledge across Africa, and as part of this scheme SAIDIA sponsored exchanges between paediatric surgeons in Kenya, Ghana and beyond.

The energetic and financial input into such initiatives was considerable, and Makena organized impressive and unique fund-raising events to underwrite the projects. Tapping into expertise gained from graduate studies in international development, she organized annual high profile Africa-themed events at the United Nations that assembled a star spangled roster of celebrity artists and performers to entertain ambassadors, politicians, policy makers and business people alike. To the delight of guests, Makena twice organized for the Executive Chef of Nairobi's famed Norfolk hotel to fly to New York to specially prepare a gourmet Kenyan dinner. While these events were always dazzling for their entertainment value, serious humanitarian issues were addressed, endorsing Makena's role as a SAIDIA delegate in key assemblies such as UNICEF's 1990 World Summit for Children, and the 1991 African/African American Summit in Abidjan.

In her SAIDIA work and other projects, Makena often mentioned how much she appreciated the strong support she received from her family. Both Leah and John provided incredible moral and practical support in all her endeavors, ranging from sponsoring and participating in fundraising events at the highest level, right down to helping solve logistical challenges at the grass roots level. Likewise, Makena's much-adored brothers lent their support in so many ways. Mutuma, who was living in Nigeria, worked with Dr. Bryant Orjiako to explore launching SAIDIA projects in Nigeria and also lent his support to the UN evenings. Kimathi and Peter similarly supported many SAIDIA activities, always making the effort to appear in person at events in Washington and New York. It was a proud moment when almost the entire family made it to D.C. in 1993 to see Makena receive the F. Edward Johnson Outstanding Achievement in Service to Children Award from the African Development Foundation.

This small 'window' into a particular period in Makena's life is aimed at shining the spotlight on some of the wonderful characteristics that make up Makena's unique and special persona. She went on after this to achieve a dizzying array of accomplishments, but she always held on to her compassionate, caring side and always found a way to express her creative flare. It is these qualities together with so many others that make Makena such a charismatic person whose influence will be felt and valued always.

Victoria Waldock.

TRIBUTE FOR DR. MAKENA MARANGU

Dr Makena was both sister and a dear niece to me. A sister because we grew up together both at Meru for a short time she stayed with Juju Isabella and then we grew together in Illinois when I went to College staying with her parents in their home. She was a niece as my sister's firstborn. When we lived in Illinois, living at No 380 South Main we were a very happy and unique Black Family amidst all white community. We felt unique and not disadvantaged by being the only African family in the neighborhood. The Olivet environment was very conducive to development of Marangu children and Makena being the first born in the family, she paved the way for her siblings and accomplished much in both academic and social life in the community.

Makena went to School through Brandy Bourbonais System of Education. From there she attended Olivet Nazarene University, where her Dad Prof John Marangu was a Professor of Genetics and Microbiology. She took her first Lessons of Microbiology (A requirement for Medical School) from NONE other than her own Dad.

When it was time to move from No. 380 South Main. Prof John Marangu and Prof Leah Marangu decided to build a family home, this was an opportunity for me too to get my first lesson in building and construction from Uncle John as I always address him. This was during the summer of 1975. Again the Black African Family scored a big "A" to Erect a Family Home in the Community. When it reached to the finishing of the house in the inside, Makena and her Mum, Leah were the painters, the job they did with excellent finishes. In that winter we entered a house of our own. Mutuma, kimathi and Peter were not spared either, they were cleaning inside as much as they could.

In the winter of 1975' while in the warmth of a new house, Makena had a very good time to take lessons on making jewelry from her Mother Prof Leah Marangu.. They made Maasai beads and Samburu necklaces, this helped Makena to make a few dollar selling beads, which her Mother continued to ship to her even after the family went back to Kenya to teach at Kenyatta University. I remember Makena was given a car by her parents when they went back to Kenya, a Ford Maverick though she had no driving license. I was the driver wherever she wanted to go until she got her license. When I finished my Masters Degree from University of Illinois, Makena and My late brother Joe Kaburu, the Johnson's and my cousin Mbaya were the only people who attended my Graduation Ceremony.

Dr Makena was a passionate member of the family, she made it all the way from USA - America to come and be one of our flower maids in our wedding in 1983. Therefore acquiring another living aunt Florence whom she has been very close and sharing a lot together over long distance. If and when Makena called aunt Florence, it never lasted less the one hour on the phone. Makena and Craig were active in eradicating Mosquito in Kenya and helping the lame through Answer Africa Foundation which was started by Dr. Makena and Engineer Craig.

Even when Dr. Makena was sick and could not travel Engineer Craig was able to come to Africa to assemble wheelchairs and distribute Mosquito nets in Kenya. We worked closely with Dr. Makena in Meru distributing Mosquito Nets and Medicines. She was a Lady of Honor and Big Heart.

Makena's departure has left a big gap to the Family and the people of Kenya and especially Meru People. May our Almighty God rest her in peace.

DR MAKENA , rest in Peace
WE LOVE YOU TILL WE MEET

Cornelius Muthuri

FAMILY TRIBUTE FOR DR. MAKENA MARANGU

When I think back to what characterized Makena's life there is a consistent theme of generosity. Makena used her time, her skills, her influence and her resources to help others around her, and around the world. If she knew someone was ill, she would give her advice and offer to speak to their doctors on their behalf, to ensure they got the best treatment. Makena was very perceptive, and it was impressive how she could sometimes figure out what was causing you to be ill even before the doctor treating you figured out what the problem was. Makena also generously helped to make introductions for people she knew were ill that needed access to specialists or renowned hospitals. Makena was always generous in using her influence for the good of others, and this made a big difference for many people.

Makena also showed her generosity through the organizations she founded to help people in need on the African continent. In particular, SAIDIA for Children of Africa, which she co-founded with Dr. Richard Leakey, and Answer Africa. These charities have had great impact for many thousands of underprivileged people on the continent. For example, Answer Africa has done an outstanding job, giving over 200,000 mosquito nets to rural communities in Kenya. These mosquito nets have been enormously beneficial for the recipients, and the protective benefits of the nets last several years. It was also very impressive how Makena was able to organize huge events for the SAIDIA charity at the United Nations in New York City. Ambassador Francis Muthaura was of great help in securing access to this prestigious venue and this helped the worthy cause. The SAIDIA charity events were attended by many Ambassadors and celebrities, and the events showed how persuasive Makena could be to influence and mobilize people from all strata of society for positive change. At one of these SAIDIA events, the famous comedian Dick Gregory was the headline entertainer for the evening. After the event was over I recall the fun time we had when Mr. Gregory continued talking with Makena, my brother Kimathi, myself and Victoria Waldock, a good friend of Makena who worked hard with her to organize the SAIDIA events. We sat in the lounge at a nearby hotel, and Mr. Gregory proceeded to tell us many more jokes until late in the night. I don't think Dick Gregory would have done that for everyone, but he chose to spend the extra time with Makena. It showed the type of influence Makena had on people, and the respect people had for her, and the charitable work she did.

For all the many thousands of people she helped, and the all the well-known and regular people she interacted with, Makena was a dear member of our family. Makena greatly enjoyed the times when we were able to meet up for Christmas, or when she could sing Happy Birthday for you, or when she could go trick or treating with her nephews and niece on Halloween. She greatly enjoyed spending the time together and enjoyed giving presents to family members. She is greatly missed by all of us. However, we are comforted by our belief that she is now in heaven and no longer ill.

May she rest in peace.

Marangu Family,

From Craig Elliott Hacche,

husband of Jean Ann Makena Marangu, M.D.

Grace, Determination, Philanthropy, Intellect and Beauty.

These are five words that I think best describe my amazing wife, Dr. Makena, as she was known on television and seen around the globe every day and every week for almost ten years on the Trinity Broadcast Network's "Doctor to Doctor" program in the decade of the 2000's.

I had the great honor and privilege of being married to this wonderful, beautiful, and extraordinarily intelligent, determined, and graceful Kenyan woman for 16 years. And I also had the great honor and privilege to hold her hand while she passed from this world and into the loving embrace of the Lord while praying with a pastor at my wife's bedside.

And it is my desire to have YOU know her for who she was, not only her incredible feats of caring, not only her influence on world events, not only her medical achievements, but the wonderful, caring, selfless person that she was. There was zero take in Makena. Makena was all 100% give, and then give more and more and more. She spent her entire life giving and serving others. She did not have a mean or selfish bone in her body.

This is an African woman who was born and raised in Meru, Kenya, by her grandmother, Jojo, on the slopes of Mt. Kenya, and a Kenyan woman who addressed delegates at the United Nations. This is a Kenyan woman who had great friendships with Ambassadors and Heads of State, renowned Medical Doctor's, Atomic PhD Scientists, Politicians and Judges in Africa and the United States. This is a Kenyan woman who was scheduled to receive an award from the First Lady of The United States of America, Hillary Rodham Clinton, the F. Edward Johnson Award, for Outstanding Achievement in Service to Children in Africa. This is a Kenyan woman who would identify the President of the World Bank in a crowd at the Nairobi Airport and simply walk up to him and provide her input regarding the World Bank and their treatment of her country, Kenya. This is a Kenyan woman who was invited to sit next to the First Lady of The United States of America, Nancy Reagan, and her husband President Ronald Reagan when President Ronald Reagan first appeared in public in church after the assassination attempt on his life in 1981.

This was an amazing and worldly Kenyan woman of Grace, Determination, Philanthropy, Intellect and Beauty. A Kenyan woman that completed a 5 Year Medical Doctorate Degree at the Medical College of Virginia, USA, and then completed an additional 5 FIVE Year General and Trauma Surgery Residency at UMDNJ in Newark New Jersey, USA. A Kenyan woman that raised countless thousands of dollars and coordinated teams of surgeons EVERY YEAR for those five years and arranged to fly them to various countries in Africa to teach advanced pediatric life support and perform surgeries on children with cleft lips and cleft palates and other deformities. This incredible Kenyan woman formed the non-profit charitable organization called AnswerAfrica, an organization that helped thousands of children in Africa with medical supplies and mosquito nets. In fact, she raised over USA-\$1.3 Million over ten years, delivered over USA-\$600 Thousand in medical supplies and equipment, and provided over 200,000 mosquito nets to rural and remote areas and villages in Kenya.

Breast Cancer stole my wife from me at the young age of 56. And the most tragic part of this incredibly sad fact is that if one looks at all that this amazing Kenyan woman had accomplished in her first 56 years, one can only feel remorse about what could have been. And what she could have accomplished with just 10, 20, or 30 more years.

I LOVE YOU Makena. I HAVE ALWAYS LOVED YOU. AND I WILL ALWAYS LOVE YOU. And my only comfort comes from the knowledge of the fact that we will spend eternity together in the Kingdom of God.

Craig Elliott Hacche.

