

## *She Is Gone*

*You can shed tears that she is gone.  
Or you can smile because she has lived.*

*You can close your eyes,  
and pray that she will come back.*

*Or you can open your eyes,  
and see all that she has left.*

*Your heart can be empty because you can't see her.  
Or you can be full of the love that you shared.*

*You can turn your back on tomorrow,  
and live yesterday.*

*Or you can be happy for tomorrow,  
because of yesterday.*

*You can remember her and only that she is gone.  
Or you can cherish her memory and let it live on.*

*You can cry and close your mind,  
be empty and turn your back.*

*Or you can do what she would want:  
smile, open your eyes, love and go on.*



EVAN J. STRONG  
FUNERAL SERVICES

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In Loving Memory  
*Sylvia Muteta*  
1967 - 2020



## *Sylvia Muteta*

March 2, 1967 - October 31, 2020

Sylvie Chungu Muteta, whose departure we mourn today, was the daughter of Professor Faustin Muteta and Léontine Masaka Kalela. She was born on March 2, 1967 in Brussels, Belgium, the fourth in a family of 7 children. For those who know us, she comes after Francine and before Nadine here present. She grew up in Lubumbashi then in Kinshasa and returned to Lubumbashi in 1982. In 1995, she immigrated to Canada, and lived in Calgary, in the province of Alberta which is in western Canada. It is more than 4 hours west by plane from Montreal. This is where she established herself. She worked for the Ministry of Health for the province of Alberta until 2019. She was fortunate enough to be a mother and gave birth to two boys: Moses in November 1996 and Jason in January 2004. Her children were her whole life, she nursed them like a real mother hen. What do we remember about our beloved "Da Sylvia" as we all affectionately called her?

Her love: we all have the habit of saying that of the 7 Muteta children, Sylvie was the one with the most good and the biggest heart. A heart of forgiveness, a generous heart (Sylvie had her heart on her hands); an altruistic heart; a heart of service. As an older sister, I could send Sylvie ten times in a row, she never refused and never complained. She smiled in all circumstances, even in difficult times. Her faith: Sylvie was a fervent believer. She loved God and never ceased to praise and thank him in all circumstances, even in her illness. With her courage and strength, she raised her children alone, in the face of major illness. Our Sylvie has bowed out after a long illness of several months in Calgary. According to the testimonies of her close friends, she fought to the end with faith and courage. It leaves an immense void in the family and with those close to her. But she leaves us with two beautiful children full of love like their mother. All the love we have for her is what we want to pour out on them now. God gave us Sylvie, God took Sylvie back, may His Name be glorified. We give Him glory and thank Him for this exceptional daughter, sister, niece, cousin, mother, and friend, and for all the love she sewed around her.

### **Concelebrated Funeral Mass**

St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church  
Wednesday, November 18, 2020 at 1:00 pm

#### **Presiders**

The Rev. Valentine Summ  
The Rev. Gabriel Arhi

**Reader:** Ermine Cummings

**Pianist:** Debbie Taylor

**Soloist:** Karla Subero

#### **Musical Selections**

How Great Thou Art  
You are Mine  
Be Not Afraid  
Mother of Christ

#### **Pallbearers**

Moses Kabongo                      Jason Kabongo  
Chris Chiwetelu                      James Cleus  
Jacob Salvador                      Yuzeif Dahi Melendez

*Eternal rest grant unto your servant Sylvia,  
O Lord, and let eternal light shine upon her.*