

Lon,

Writing this is the most difficult task I have ever faced. Moreso at this time when my mind still weaves in and out of denial of your departure. That I am hurt and pained beyond words can ever express is an understatement, but to say farewell, I have made a choice that I know you would like. The choice is based on the scriptural directive of 1 Thessalonians 5:18, which says, *"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus"*. So, my love,

- I give thanks to God for the blessing of meeting you in December 1979
- I am grateful to God for the blessing of living together with you for 44 years (since 1981).
- I give thanks to God for blessing us with individual and collective strengths to face the challenges of life together. I thank God for all the memories.
- I thank God for giving you the grace to touch and bless many lives at your places of work, church, your schools and your community at large.
- I give thanks to God for blessing us with good children (Abiola, Afolabi and Anjola)
- I thank God for blessing us with beautiful grandchildren (Adedamola and Aderinsola Adegbite; Ayomide Chimamanda and Jayden Obinna Lagunju; Ademide and Adejare Adewusi).
- I am grateful to God for the blessing of making you see all your grandchildren before your departure. Even in coma, God gave you the grace to briefly open your eyes to see our last grandchild, Adejare, and to bless him. I thank God for your last words, *"Adejare, I love you! Adejare, God bless you!"*
- I am grateful to God for the seven months we stayed in the hospital. I thank God for the strength he gave me to take care of you during those difficult months.
- I am grateful to God for blessing you with a strong spirit to fight the cancer, a battle which we eventually lost.
- I thank God for showing us that the most important thing in our lives is that His Will be done.

Good night my love,

I hope and pray that the Resurrection Morning comes soonest.

Abimbola Lagunju