



Dr. Godfrey Gwaze Sikipa

June 6, 1951 - May 5, 2025

This is a story of a public health medical champion in Africa, who started his journey in Zimbabwe and took the fight for Health for All to continental Africa before taking it to the global community.

Dr. Godfrey Gwaze Sikipa passed away on the 5th of May 2025 in Virginia, USA, after a twenty-year battle with cancer, which he faced with optimism and determination. He was surrounded by his family at the time of his passing. He is survived by his wife, Dolly; his sons, Tapiwa, Shingayi, Rufaro and Farai; and his grandchildren, Jamie, Josh, Sophie, Daniel and Benji.

Born in 1951 in Goromonzi, Dr. Sikipa was the eighth of ten siblings. His parents were Gwaze and Edinah (nee Kamvuri) Sikipa. He attended Fletcher High School in Gweru. Dr. Sikipa trained as a medical doctor at the University of Rhodesia before going to the United Kingdom to specialize as a Public Health Specialist. He joined the Ministry of Health and rose through the ranks from Medical Officer at Kwekwe General Hospital to become the first Provincial Medical Director of the newly formed Mashonaland West. In recognition of his strong leadership in public and primary health care, as well as his commitment to expanding access to health services for all, he was appointed to lead Zimbabwe's Ministry of Health —first as Principal Medical Director and soon after as Permanent Secretary under Minister Dr. Timothy Stamps.

Dr Sikipa subsequently moved into international public health to head the Family Health International Africa Program in Washington DC before coming to set up the African Headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya. After setting up the office, he joined the UNAIDS headquarters in Geneva, to head the African AIDS Program. He later moved to the United States, joining RTI International, a nonprofit organization headquartered in the Research Triangle Park in North Carolina, USA that provides research and technical services. During his time overseas, he served as a Member of the Technical Evaluation Reference Group of the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

As his continued contribution to Zimbabwe's national development, he served on the Presidential Advisory Council to the President of Zimbabwe (2018-2023), served as Chairman of the Parirenyatwa Group of Hospitals Management Board and was a member of the Zimbabwe College of Public Health Physicians, which supported the Ministry of Health in continuing to advance public and primary health care and in the national response to COVID-19. He also served on the Board of Zimbabwe Island Hospice and Healthcare, the first hospice in Africa.

His community-centered upbringing in Goromonzi, unwavering belief in the strength of love and family and more so the extended family, service to the nation, as well as his strong will power, resulted in a life fully dedicated to service to others, epitomized by the expression, "one life lived, many lives touched"

Previous Events

Receive Friends

MAY 10. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Pierce Funeral Home Celebration Room
9609 Center Street
Manassas, VA 20110
<https://www.piercefh.com/who-we-are/celebration-room>

Funeral Service

MAY 10. 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM (ET)

Pierce Funeral Home
9609 Center St.
Manassas, VA 20110
(703) 257-6028
pfh@piercefh.com
<https://www.piercefh.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Pierce Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Dr. Godfrey Gwaze Sikipa*



Pierce Funeral Home - May 08, 2025 at 09:10 AM

TM

Dr Godfrey Gwaze Sikipa will definitely be missed by the family and medical fraternity and also by people who knew him as a friend. He had that memorable smile that showed his kindness and respect for others. His love for humanity will be stamped on our hearts

Tracy MCwabeni - May 09, 2025 at 11:17 AM

RM

Sekuru Godie was and will always be my maternal grandmother's young brother. He was a beacon of light for us all. I am the nurse I am with the values, passion and drive I have because of his mentorship. There was never an issue too small or too big for my beloved Sekuru. My family has lost a warrior. My grandmother will never be able to look forward to his visits. My mom will never be able to tell me Sekuru wants to have a few words because you need counselling. go well Sekuru Godie. Soar high. All our beautiful memories of our time with you will outlive us all because your legacy of love, family, hard work, honesty, commitment, truth will live on from this generation to the next. You have set a standard Sekuru, your boots are hard to fill but we will live by your standards that you set us. Until we meet again we love you. I was privileged in this life to be your muzukuru by virtue of Gogo Dorothy Gogo Grace and my mom Gloria.

Regina Chiedza Mafudze - May 10, 2025 at 04:55 PM

DM

Farewell my boss and personal tutor in matters of Public health. It was your instigation that I persued health economics at LSHTM in the 1990s and I was really privileged to have been your student professionally. Legends never die! You remain etched in our hearts

Dr Oliver Mudyarabikwa - May 16, 2025 at 06:49 AM

JP

“ It was with sadness that I heard about the passing of Dr Godfrey Sikipa. I got to know Godfrey well as a member of the TERG of the Global Fund in Geneva. His dedication and technical skills in public health and evaluation will be greatly missed. My thoughts are with his family during this difficult period. RIP Godfrey. Dr. John Puvimanasinghe

John Puvimanasinghe - May 22, 2025 at 05:11 AM

WG

“ Beloved babamukuru, friend, mentor: you were selfless, caring, humble, loving, joyful, caring, funny, believer in God, inspiring and uplifting, simply a wonderful person. It was such a blessing to know you, to follow your tracks from Kadoma Hosp to Chinhoyi to the global public health arena, and to share all those years with you, family and friends. Wiill miss you deeply. Will always remember and cherish our family get togethers, Friday family dinners, joint road trips, your humor that always lit up the room, your skilled dance moves. You galantly and positively fought your battle; may the Almighty rest your soul in peace. Maiguru Dolly and family: deepest condolences, may the Lord continue to bless, comfort and give you peace and strength. Wonder, Stella & Tapi Goredema

Wonder Goredema - May 18, 2025 at 12:27 AM

GC

“ Will sorely miss your humility, selflessness and hearty laughter. Dolly and the family, may the Lord comfort you and grant you peace. Mbuya Getty Chitunya-Moyo

Getrude Chitunya-Moyo - May 13, 2025 at 10:57 AM

CM

A gentleman par excellence, an epitome of humility and love. You loved and embraced everyone no matter who they were. You had the time to listen and to give and take advice. I will miss the phone calls asking if I was home so you could come over for dinner. May the Lord grant you the peace you deserve and may you rest in His loving presence.

Mwana Connie Muzenda

Connie Muzenda - May 20, 2025 at 11:16 AM

JM

“ Dr Sikipa, you were an inspirational humble man working tirelessly to support and improve the health sector in Zimbabwe and the world at large. You were ever ready to humbly pour out from your fountain of knowledge. Its sad that we got to know you for a short time and will treasure those moments. May the Lord wipe Dolly's tears and the whole family at large. Rest in Power Doc.

Junior and Francis Mutasa, Goromonzi

Junior Mutasa - May 12, 2025 at 08:57 AM

DM

Dr Godfrey Sikipa: It is sad and painful to learn about your passing on. What a loss to the medical fraternity and all those you served with total commitment.

*I remember the days we played football together at the University of Zimbabwe when you were our number 9. What a striker you were. Our friendship was cemented when you visited me in Luveve and I was so grateful. Godfrey, you were such a humble and kind person and I will miss you. MHSRIP
Dr Ernest Munowenyu*

Dr Ernest Munowenyu - May 17, 2025 at 07:57 PM

KS

“ Uncle Godfrey as he was known to us was both a warm, kind and joyful member of our family and as we grew up to know him, an inspirational man working tirelessly to support and improve the health of those in Zimbabwe and around the world. May be ready in peace for all the hard work he gave to those who needed him and we will forever be grateful that we were blessed to know and spend time with him.

Lots of love, Krishna, Tamanna and the girls

Krishna Sivakumaran - May 11, 2025 at 02:00 AM

JP

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John Puvimanasinghe - May 22, 2025 at 04:58 AM

CA

“ This is message in June 2024 when he was confirmed in the Catholic Church. May his soul rest in eternal peace

Caleb - May 10, 2025 at 07:59 PM

CA

“ Happy birthday shamwari yepamoyo Sabhuku Sikipa! Your subjects are missing you in Goromonzi. We wish you many more years filled with love and joy. We are so grateful to have you in our lives. So most people have their family and their friends separately but you have become the family we have chosen for ourselves, FRAMILY. We (& our boys) always fondly talk about you and say “oh sugar” and laugh with intense love for you. You are very special to us and we love you dearly. Nhasi is also your baptism day. How special is that! We are happy that you have formalised your faith as you have always practiced the kindness, love, generosity and compassion of Christianity. Now, don't go to Zimbabwe YET! Usagirirwe, Huyai kuZimbabwe, tivake nyika yedu Sabhuku!

Caleb - May 10, 2025 at 07:57 PM

NM

“ Beloved Babamunini was a Father to us. Always asked about my boys, even at the very end. I remember him recounting to me how my youngest asked him one day as a toddler, if he had his own 'Brandon' referring to his older toddler sibling. That really made me laugh. His laugh was genuine, and contagious. He remembered details, and was always generous with his fatherly advice. Go well Babamunini, you fought a good fight and left a legendary legacy. To dear Auntie Dolly and my Brothers, Mwari Vatinyaradze❤️

Nyaradzo Marangwanda - May 10, 2025 at 07:47 PM

SM

“ I asked my daughters why they had not said something about Dr G. Both said the sadness is making it difficult for them to find the right words. They regarded him as their second father, especially Tafadzwa who worked briefly with him at Compre Health. Three of them Tafadzwa, Zvikomborero and their brother Tinashe have fond memories of him. His jokes, playful ness around them made them comfortable. He always showed keen interest in what they were doing and encouraged them to pursue their dreams which gave them a lot of confidence.
Dr G. Will be missed so much. MHSRIP.

Stella Marowa - May 10, 2025 at 06:04 PM

EK

“ Godfrey, a very happy and cheerful guy, was ready to share his joy and experience as well as being keen to learn more outside his sphere of knowledge.

The Kwekwe-Redcliff-ZISCOSTEEL community will have fond memories of him as their medical officer.

Nearer home here in Goromonzi, he had developed a very keen and successful interest in farming and market gardening.

He always had time for me and my family, we celebrate his life of selflessness and community spirit.

MHDSRIEP

Eng. Stan Kazhanje - May 10, 2025 at 05:42 PM

RM

“*Sekuru Godie was and will always be my maternal grandmother’s young brother. He was a beacon of light for us all. I am the nurse I am with the values, passion and drive I have because of his mentorship. There was never an issue too small or too big for my beloved Sekuru. My family has lost a warrior. My grandmother will never be able to look forward to his visits. My mom will never be able to tell me Sekuru wants to have a few words because you need counselling. go well Sekuru Godie. Soar high. All our beautiful memories of our time with you will outlive us all because your legacy of love, family, hard work, honesty, commitment, truth will live on from this generation to the next. You have set a standard Sekuru, your boots are hard to fill but we will live by your standards that you set us. Until we meet again we love you. I was privileged in this life to be your muzukuru by virtue of Gogo Dorothy Gogo Grace and my mom Gloria*

Regina Chiedza Mafudze - May 10, 2025 at 05:11 PM

PC

“*Muzukuru Doctor Godfrey Sikipa, a humble soul who will be greatly missed never assuming or imposing yourself despite all that the great achievements you accomplished in your life .Will forever remember your loving care and support you always gave to the Mhazi clan .May your dear soul rest in eternal peace.*

Pauline Chapendama - May 10, 2025 at 05:00 PM

CC

“*What a sad loss.May the Great comforter touch you Dolly & the family .Till we meet Godfrey,rest in power .*

Chipo Chipere - May 10, 2025 at 04:45 PM

SG

“ One of the hardest things we ever had to do was say goodbye to you, your kindness, your love and the big heart you had. We will surely miss you, baba. From Sibonile Gwaze & Family💔💔!!



Sibonile Gwaze - May 10, 2025 at 04:07 PM

TC

“ I had the privilege of knowing Dr. Sikipa through my father, Dr. Rufaro Chatora, and I have long admired the lives they have led. I have fond and cherished memories of playing with the Sikipa boys alongside my two brothers, both in Harare and Nairobi. The last time I saw Dr Sikipa in person was at his home in Harare around 2015 and he gave me some advice that has stuck with me. His loss will be deeply felt by many. My heartfelt condolences to the Sikipa family. Rest in peace, Doc.
Tinashe Chatora

Tinashe Chatora - May 10, 2025 at 04:02 PM

AS

“ *Uncle Godfrey. So warm hearted, full of life and a kind person. Often putting others before himself and ever thoughtful. I will forever remember him teaching us how to play golf at Police Golf club in Harare. And the time he sent me a magnetic dartboard in my first year of university. A gift that I used far more often during exam time than perhaps I should have! But one that I got a lot of enjoyment out of despite its simplicity.*

I'm sure he touched more people's lives than he would have realised. And I know he will be missed but he will always be remembered. Our thoughts and love are with him, Auntie Dolly and the family.

Arjuna and family

Arjuna Sivakumaran - May 10, 2025 at 10:36 AM

DC

“ Godfrey was excellent Public Health Specialist who contributed immensely to the improved health of citizens of Zimbabwe, the region and globally.

For me personally, he was a real brother, a friend, colleague and mentor. I worked with him when he was Africa Director at UNAIDS in Geneva and I was at WHO Geneva. Godfrey was a jolly good fellow, always laughing and joking. He loved fun and would always bring warmth wherever he went. I remember the parties he organized when we were in Geneva.

As I progressed in my career, Godfrey always kept a tag on me just as his young brother. When I moved countries, many times he would connect me to colleagues as I settled in those new countries, using his vast network of friends and colleagues. About 15 years ago, he almost convinced me to join him at Compre Health when I almost left WHO. He was such a caring and supportive person.

With Godfrey's passing, the world has lost a great public health leader, someone who always made a positive impact wherever he went. He leaves behind a great legacy. He will always be sorely missed.

My sincere condolences to Dolly, the boys and the grandchildren.

Dr Brian Chirombo (formerly Pazvakavambwa), WHO Representative to Rwanda

Dr Brian Chirombo - May 10, 2025 at 10:26 AM

NB

Beloved uncle, will be dearly missed with fond memories and will remain in our hearts forever ❤️

Nyasha Bindley - May 10, 2025 at 03:54 PM

SM

“ We will miss a loving friend.

Godfrey Sikipa was a dear friend, colleague, and a truly inspiring action and result-driven Zimbabwean Public Health leader, he leaves rich memories and a future legacy for us all to continue. Godfrey took forward the call to deliver health services to all Zimbabweans through the post-independent drive by legendary health leaders and heroes; Dr Herbert Ushewekunze, Dr Office Chidede and Dr Daniel Makuto with Policy on Equity in Health with Free Health at Point of Delivery for All, through Primary Health Care, District Health Systems, and accessible District and Provincial Hospitals. Our professional and family bonds start from our work as medical officers in the Midlands Province and Mashonaland Province. This joint journey of our lives continued in 1983 with our many colleagues and friends and our postgraduate training in Mother and Child Health, Tropical Medicine, and Public Health in the UK. He was the first Provincial Medical Director for Mashonaland West, and I was then his Medical Superintendent of Chinoyi Provincial Hospital, culminating in advancing Primary Health Care in Mokonde District, Mashonaland West Province, and planning and financing the new Chinoyi Provincial Hospital. Subsequently, at the Ministry of Health Head Office as Principal Medical Director and Permanent Secretary for Health, and I as Chief Epidemiologist and Director of Epidemiology and Disease Control, and onwards internationally in Family Health and Disease Prevention and Control, Global Public Health.

Godfrey and Dolly always welcomed me, initially Shiva and then with Liz, into their house, and we continued with shared godsons Rufaro Sikipa and Arjuna Sivakumaran and the rest of the tribe. Godfrey was always concerned about the family and how they were fairing. His first question How are the babies? Even when they were grown adults, and more recently – how are the little ones?

Godfrey and Dolly wherever they lived were a centre of hospitality for all, and their young men and their wives and their evolving

football club of grandchildren. He was always committed to his large extended family, we met at his home; his sisters and brothers, and he walked the extra mile in mentoring and supporting several nieces and nephews.

We remember the long family discussions always came back at all times to Health for All Zimbabweans, and he was always proactive with ideas for what is next, looking at ways to revitalise the ailing public health sector in Zimbabwe, but always ready to share ideas over a beer or meal.

Godfrey was one of the founding fathers of Zimhealth Europe together with Daniel Makuto, created in Geneva in 2008 in response to the challenges of the health system in Zimbabwe, and mobilised Zimbabweans in the US, setting up the US chapter. During the Covid pandemic Godfrey mobilised many of us to form a network of Health Elders creating and the first chair of the Health Sector Advisory Network, HASN.

Godfrey will be missed by us all, but his spirit and legacy will live on through his family, friends, colleagues, and the many young Zimbabweans he has inspired to work in Public Health and Health for all Zimbabweans. MHSRIP

Shiva Murugasampillay, Liz Mason, Shanthi, Krishna, Arjuna Sivakumaran and families.

Shiva Murugasampillay & Liz Mason - May 10, 2025 at 10:08 AM

AD

“ Alex Danso

May His gentle Soul rest in peace. Godfrey, my friend , go well . You will be sorely missed

Alex Danso - May 10, 2025 at 09:47 AM

MC

MHSRIP

Midion Chidzonga - May 10, 2025 at 02:09 PM

MC

My condolences to Dolly and the family

Midion Chidzonga - May 10, 2025 at 02:10 PM

CS

“ *AAlex Danso*

May His gentle Soul rest in peace. Godfrey, my friend , go well . You will be sorely missed

Christopher A Samkange - May 10, 2025 at 09:45 AM

EK

Stanley Kazhanje

Godfrey, a very happy and cheerful guy, was ready to share his joy and experience as well as being keen to learn more outside his sphere of knowledge.

The Kwekwe-Redcliff-ZISCOSTEEL community will have fond memories of him as their medical officer.

Nearer home here in Goromonzi, he had developed a very keen and successful interest in farming and market gardening.

He always had time for me and my family, we celebrate his life of selflessness and community spirit.

MHDSRIEP

Eng. Stan Kazhanje - May 10, 2025 at 10:19 AM

“ I am deeply shocked and saddened by the passing of Dr. Godfrey Gwaze Sikipa on May 5, 2025, in Virginia, USA. News of his death came as a great surprise, and it is difficult to imagine the public health landscape without his steady presence and visionary leadership. His loss is not only personal but a significant blow to the public health community.

I had the privilege of working closely with Dr. Sikipa early in my career, an experience that profoundly shaped my professional journey. After completing my Masters in Public Health, my first posting was at Compre Health Services, the organization he founded with his colleague and friend Dr Evaristo Marowa with the mission to deliver comprehensive health services and strengthen health systems. Under his guidance, I served as the Program Manager for a PEPFAR/CDC-supported Ministry of Health and Child Care (MOHCC) HIV Clinical Mentorship Programme, which Compre Health Services was part of the implementing partners (I-TECH Consortium). This role marked my first exposure to working within the broader public health system, and I was fortunate to have Dr. Sikipa as both my supervisor and mentor.

Dr. Sikipa was more than a leader-he was a true mentor. His mentorship was rooted in decades of experience at various levels of management within the MOHCC (district and province), where he served as Permanent Secretary from 1990 to 1992, and at the international level, including roles with organizations such as FHI, the Global Fund, and Management Sciences for Health (MSH). His deep understanding of public health, policy, and program implementation was matched only by his commitment to building the capacity of those around him.

Reflecting on my time working with him at Compre Health Services, I am reminded of the invaluable skills I gained under his mentorship. One of the most important was report writing. Dr. Sikipa was exceptionally particular about the quality of reports, especially those destined for donors and funders. He would meticulously review

each report, providing detailed guidance on language, structure, and clarity before giving approval to submit. I vividly recall how he would patiently correct my common mistakes, such as confusing “contact” with “conduct,” always emphasizing precision and professionalism. Through his guidance and high standards, I grew to become an expert in report writing, a skill that has served me throughout my career.

Another invaluable lesson I learned from Dr. Sikipa was his approach to conflict resolution. He always emphasized that the best way to resolve conflict was to directly engage with the person you were having a misunderstanding with. Dr. Sikipa was firmly against involving intermediaries or sending emissaries, believing that this could worsen the situation if messages were miscommunicated or intentions misunderstood. His advice was simple but powerful: speak directly and honestly with the person involved. Ever since adopting his approach, I have seen firsthand how effective it is. I no longer believe in using mediators, and this direct engagement has consistently helped me resolve issues more constructively.

In conclusion, Dr. Sikipa’s mentorship has been instrumental in shaping my current career. The skills and values he instilled in me continue to guide my work as a lecturer, where I am privileged to train and inspire future public health professionals. His legacy lives on not only through the systems he helped strengthen but also through the countless individuals like myself whom he empowered to make a difference. I am forever grateful for his guidance and will carry his lessons forward with great honor.

*Dr Richard Makurumidze (MChB, MPH, PhD), currently
Chairperson, Department of Global, Public Health and Family
Medicine, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, University of
Zimbabwe*

Richard Makurumidze - May 10, 2025 at 09:39 AM



“ *From Moeketsi Never MOLAI*

To Dolly, boys dzangu and vazukuru.

Dr. Godfrey Sikipa.

A cherished schoolmate, a trusted friend, and a devoted family ally. We met at Fletcher High School when he was my senior. A keen soccer player but I gave him a torrid time during practice sessions when he was a centre back for the school senior team and I was the centre forward for the school junior team.

A distinguished medical doctor and visionary leader, who left an indelible mark not only in the healthcare field but in the lives of those fortunate enough to know him personally.

He stood beside me as the best man at my wedding—a role that spoke to the strength and depth of our friendship. Over the years, his support and warmth made him not just a colleague, but family. He graciously appointed me to the board of directors of two of his organizations, Compre Health Services Zimbabwe Ltd. and UMPILO Health Advisory Pvt Voluntarily Organisation a reflection of the trust and respect we shared.

Whether visiting our home in Zimbabwe or welcoming us to his home in North Carolina, Washington, Virginia in the USA his welcoming was always a source of joy. He could only imbibe a few shots of whisky and leave you to enjoy the rest ! Godfrey lived a life of service, connection, and generosity. His memory will remain forever etched in our hearts.

May his departed soul rest in eternal peac

Moeketsi N BM Molai - May 10, 2025 at 04:01 AM

GT

“ The fall of a giant oak tree is echoed by the whole forest! Dr Godfrey Gwaze Sikipa, muzukuru wa mbuya, a deep reservoir of love, compassion and care, your promotion to greater glory is being echoed in the hearts of many. Your gentle, yet strong leadership in the health and wellbeing of others is remembered today and always. I was privileged to have experienced and enjoyed your favour for decades. We laughed, cried and shared ideas and experiences on various professional and family matters. You were a mentor and provided selfless guidance to the rich and the poor, the young and old with no partiality. Today, I reflect in waves of past experiences, and present realities of heartfelt grief and sorrow. Yet, I also prayerfully hold on to the hope of seeing forests from the many acorns you sowed silently in the “one life lived; many lives touched.” Praying for Dolly and all the Sikipa family during this difficult time.
Ambassador Gertrude Takawira

Gertrude Takawira - May 10, 2025 at 02:48 AM

RU

“ Nhai sekuru I just can't believe you are gone💔

I always knew of you and saw you intermittently as a child. It wasn't until years back we came to stay with you while you were going through your first round of chemo, that I got an opportunity to know you. During that time we spent hours talking, cooking, eating and you would kick the ball around with AJ in the yard. Even though you weren't well, we sat together as you shared your long held vision of revolutionizing the Zimbabwean health sector and created the blueprint of what later became Comprehealth. Your drive and motivation was awe inspiring. I loved our time that we spent together and I am heartbroken you are no longer with us. I was blessed to have had that time to spend with you and get to know you. If only we had more time.

Rest well, sekuru. 🌹

Love

Rutendo

Rutendo - May 10, 2025 at 02:31 AM

CS

“ Christopher A Samkange:

I first encountered Godfrey Skipa at Fletcher High School where he was my senior and my older brother's contemporary. He was a terrific athlete and the centre back for our House and School football team. When I was ready to come back home after completing my specialist training I went to his office and I have never had such personalised guidance and advice. Throughout the years I worked with him, he was more of an older brother than a boss because he was always driven by one concept: he cared.

Christopher A Samkange - May 10, 2025 at 12:22 AM

JM

“ Joel and Cordelia Maweni purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Dr. Godfrey Gwaze Sikipa.



Joel and Cordelia Maweni - May 09, 2025 at 09:52 PM

RS

“ A beloved father, uncle, sekuru to our children, a champion of Public Health, A Community leader, you were forever ready to reach out & help wherever you could. You impacted your love to thousands. My years living with you in Nairobi was the time my bond with you increased, you gave me a good foundation, direction & mentored me & guided me through my early adulthood years..You spoiled me, yes i felt the love you gave. Thank you for being the best uncle father figure we yearned. Thank you for your kindness & love. To mainini & the boys, our sincere condolences to you on the loss of this lovely father..He fought a good brave fight, now you rest in eternal peace. Go well Dr Sikipa xxx❤️

Rudairo Gwaze Sikipa - May 09, 2025 at 07:31 PM

F(

“ From Shayanewako Family (Texas) purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Dr. Godfrey Gwaze Sikipa.



From Shayanewako Family (Texas) - May 09, 2025 at 07:02 PM

MN

“ To our beloved family, The Sikipa’s.
Thank you for sharing uncle Sikipa with us Ndaradzi, Bhamu & Muvingi families, Zimbabwe, Africa & The World. He gave his time, talents, knowledge, professionalism, love, respect and honor to all unsparingly without judgment. Though he has physically left us his influence on us makes us still feel his presence still. To The Man who taught me that illness is but a mere inconvenience to getting on & ahead with life, May Your Soul rest in joyful peace. With love, Michael & family. May your immediate family, friends and colleagues be comforted by The Holy Spirit.

Michael Ndaradzi - May 09, 2025 at 06:48 PM

DM

“ To Dolly Sikipa and family Professor/Dr Sylvia Mupepi and Drs Kuda and Tatenda Mupepi send their sincere condolences on the passing of one of the galant health professional Hero. I Sylvia Mupepi worked with Godfrey in the Ministry of Health and Child Welfare in Zimbabwe. Godfrey was the engine of the delivery of the best healthcare of post colonial times in Zimbabwe. During his leadership as Secretary for Health I witnessed the diverse growth of educational programs in the health sector which led to Zimbabwe becoming one of the best health services in Sub Saharan Africa. Godfrey was humble, empathetic , respectful and loved his God through his deeds. He was a champion in many things and a great team mate in the dynamics of health engineering. As a researcher I had the opportunities of publishing and presenting work at international conferences where Godfrey contributed much. His love and passion for service to humanity will live with all those who knew and worked with him in memory. Godfrey may your Soul Rest In Peace. I know you are in safe hands of our Loving Father in Heaven. It is well Alleluia Alleluia!!!!

Dr / Professor Sylvia Mupepi - May 09, 2025 at 05:12 PM

DC

“ He mentored me, Dr Vitalis G. CHIPFAKACHA showing me the ropes in Phublic Health and HIV and AIDS Response. He took me as a young brother coz I had attended Goromobzi High School. I shall miss this wonderful professional. MHSRIEP. He was a humble and accomodating skilled, "home boy".

Dr.Vitalis Goodwell Chipfakachs - May 09, 2025 at 03:55 PM

FC

“ I'm deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Dr Sikipa. Dolly wishing you strength and solace in the days ahead.

Flo Charova

Florence Charova - May 09, 2025 at 03:24 PM

DM

“ A true public health specilist physician who had his country Zimbabwe at heart - Passionate and very professional. I will forever be grateful for the very strong support and advice he provided me during my stint as PS and as the National COVID-19 Pandemic Coordinator. Rest in peace.

Dr Agnes Mahomva

Dr Agnes MAHOMVA - May 09, 2025 at 10:05 AM

SM

“ Nematambudziko Mbuya Dolly Sikipa and family. You gave him excellent care and dignity till the end . Mbiri kuna Ishe .

Stella Lucia Mabugu

stella mabugu - May 09, 2025 at 09:09 AM

TM

“ *Nematambudziko (My condolences) first to the entire Sikipa family and to us all the multitudes whom he served, touched and interacted with, with such love, kindness, generosity and selflessness as I have grown to know, love and emulate...we have lost a man "whose life meant life to a lot of many other lives". May the good Lord comfort and strengthen us during this painful time.*

Tinashe P Matombo - May 09, 2025 at 06:40 AM

RC

“ As we bid farewell to Godfrey, we want to carry forward the love and laughter he brought to our lives. His spirit will forever remain in our hearts.

Godfrey, in 1989, through his unrelenting persuasive nature lured me to Harare from Masvingo. That was the beginning of a strong partnership at work and the foundation of our families' friendship. These bonds continued after we each retired at different times from Government employment as we met again in Kenya and thereafter in Africa and the world beyond.

I remember Godfrey as a strong willed public health practitioner who wanted decisions to be based on evidence and professional discipline. One Friday morning sometime in 1990 while chairing a meeting at Park Lane Hotel he asked a medical practitioner who was disrupting the meeting to leave. A few days later the same person was appointed Minister of Health. The weekend after the meeting I travelled abroad on mission, he called to announce the news to me on the Tuesday saying “ You have a new Minister. The one we want to remove from the meeting last Friday. I have explained myself. When you come you must go and introduce yourself, and remember to say Sir, that Friday we were doing our job as is expected of us”!

Around the same time, based on projections made on analysis at Blood Transfusion Services Godfrey made a media statement that there were about 250 000 HIV positive people in the country. This was during the days of HIV denial. The Head of State was not amused. He said that he will ask Godfrey to bring the 250 000 Zimbabweans infected with HIV and show them to him!

These were tough times. Little did we know these skirmishes around HIV were to prepare Godfrey for the work his was to do later in his life.

*Godfrey, you are gone, but you will not be forgotten
Rufaro and Shuwiso Chatora*

R Chatora - May 09, 2025 at 04:39 AM

TA

“ Tsitsi Apollo

We will certainly miss Dr. Godfrey Sikipa dearly. He was very passionate about the national health programs supporting the HIV responses. When he was in Zimbabwe he supported the expansion of public private partnerships, especially for the PMTCT program and contributed immensely towards the national Partnership Fora for HIV and TB. He provided insights and contributed towards strengthening our national programs, demonstrating a lot of enthusiasm and passion for improvement.

Tsitsi Apollo - May 09, 2025 at 04:30 AM

TM

“ Tapuwa Magure

I am very saddened about the loss of Dr Godfrey Sikipa... He was our senior advisor at The National Aids Council of Zimbabwe....giving us very important advice on the various HIV prevention strategies.... which we implemented and led Zimbabwe to be recognised as a model country in terms of successful HIV management... May his soul rest in peace

Tapuwa Magure - May 09, 2025 at 04:12 AM

EM

“ Christopher A Samkange:

I first encountered Godfrey Skipa at Fletcher High School where he was my senior and my older brother's contemporary. He was a terrific athlete and the centre back for our House and School football team. When I was ready to come back home after completing my specialist training I went to his office and I have never had such personalised guidance and advice. Throughout the years I worked with him, he was more of an older brother than a boss because he was always driven by one concept: he cared.

Evaristo Marowa - May 09, 2025 at 04:07 AM



“ Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Dr. Godfrey Gwaze Sikipa.



May 08, 2025 at 10:47 PM

LJ

“ Love, Owen and Jenn purchased the Celestial Love for the family of Dr. Godfrey Gwaze Sikipa.



Love, Owen and Jenn - May 08, 2025 at 10:02 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Godfrey Gwaze Sikipa.*



May 08, 2025 at 08:31 PM



“ *Dr Obadiah Moyo, former Minister of Health and Child Care*

My deepest condolences for the loss of this magical Permanent Secretary extraordinaire who hated bureaucracy. A Public Health Specialist who contributed tremendously to the health and welfare sector of Zimbabwe. And as Chairman of the Parirenyatwa Group of Hospitals Board we worked with him so well

GREAT GUY

MHDSRIP

Obadiah Moyo - May 08, 2025 at 05:30 PM



“ *Godfrey will be missed by many. Full of humour, love, intellect, ideas, and cheerfulness, his presence was quickly felt. He was passionate about health and functional health systems. As Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Health, his door was always open. While we worked together in Geneva, he was a co-founder of ZimHealth, and when he left for the USA, he founded a ZimHealth chapter, whose first consignment was a huge shipping of BP machines in support of a municipal maternity hospital in Mbare. Our condolences to the family. May his soul rest in the eternal comfort of the Lord's arms. Mike, Liz and Mbizvo family.*

Prof Mike Mbizvo - May 08, 2025 at 05:12 PM

FN

“ Godfrey was a colleague and a friend. When we were working in UNAIDS and WHO in Geneva, Switzerland, we lived as next-door neighbours for a while in Les Champs Blancs, and spent some evenings and late nights chatting about global health and politics, among other things. One day those chats came up with how to assist with some health issues back home in Zimbabwe. Several ideas were shared with other Zimbabweans in Geneva and, eventually, ZimHealth, a non-governmental, non-profit association registered in Geneva, was conceived and established. ZimHealth (zimhealth.org), mobilises financial and material resources to support health services in Zimbabwe. Such forward looking thinking was only one of Godfrey's many talents!

Godfrey, Maggie and I will always have fond memories of you. I don't know what to do with that bottle of beer which you insisted must be kept in the fridge for whenever you dropped in to say hello! May your soul rest in peace.

Love and Peace.

Francis, Maggie, Yemurai & Tanaka NDOWA

Francis & Maggie Ndowa - May 08, 2025 at 04:00 PM

RP

Dr. Godfrey Sikipa was an ever smiling man which was a strength in him that allowed anyone to approach him for anything. I am the Executive Director of Zimbabwe Freedom From Hunger Campaign and he was our Board Chairman appointed by the Late Honorable Minister Dr Timothy John Stamps in 2014 replacing him. I joined Freedom From Hunger Campaign in 1993 and his name was already a household name in the fight against Hunger and Malnutrition in Zimbabwe. I had remote access to him until in 2014 when we were both tasked to revive the organization which had closed doors in 2008 after operating from 1963. Dr Timothy Stamps had faith in Godfrey and in 2016 the faith was rewarded. Over the years one thing I will always remember is how casual he tackled the most complex of issues. He always said to me with a smile 😊 Let's do it!

He made everything easier to handle and carried an air of authority and sagacity which rubbed on anyone willing to learn from this great leader.

On the April 24th he Chaired his final Boardmeeting for Zimbabwe Freedom From Hunger Campaign and in just ten minutes he had outlined the Roadmap that we must follow and how to go about it. Looking back we can attest that he must have felt it that his time was up. He was not that fit to Chair the meeting but gathered strength to conduct the meeting to the end. He didn't look well on camera and struggled to breathe at one point but typical of him, he continued to the end of the meeting. He then handed over the Chairmanship to his Deputy saying that he was no long able to lead because of medical reasons. A great leader knows when to quit and pass the baton and that's the hallmark of this now dear and departed Father and Board Chairperson Dr Godfrey Sikipa. His contributions to humanity are well documented and we have been robbed of a Visionary Leader. My heart is bleeding 💔 I can't stop tears from flowing each time I look at his picture. So long Dad Godfrey. The Lord gave us and in the fullness of His time has taken 🙏🏾 All glory and honor be to His Holy name.

*Lamiel BK Phiri (PhD)
Executive Director: Zimbabwe Freedom From Hunger Campaign*

Rev Dr Lamiel Phiri - May 08, 2025 at 04:30 PM

DZ

“ Felicitas Zawaira

While Permanent Secretary, Godfrey accompanied by Rufaro Chatora, visited his alma mater, the Center for International Child Health in London. I happened to be studying there. In his jocular way he said, "uri kutotamba zvako kuno, basa rizere kumusha uko" translated to mean "you are busy playing here, when there's plenty of work at home."

That's how I was recruited to become Director of Maternal and Child Health. It was an honour and a privilege to work under Godfrey's guidance and mentorship. I admired his clarity of vision, passion for his work and fierce love for our motherland.

My children and I will miss Godfrey as a family friend, uncle and mentor.

May God console Dolly, the boys and his beloved grandchildren; as only he knows how.

Godfrey, rest in peace! You fought a good and gallant fight Murehwa.

Dr Felicitas Zawaira - May 08, 2025 at 03:46 PM

GM

“ I worked with Dr Sikipa from 2015 as the Finance Manager for his establishment Comprehealth Services Pvt Ltd. I remember him for his outstanding leadership. From him I learnt the meaning of open door policy. Each time you walk into his office he moved from behind his desk to give you undivided attention. He was really a listening leader. Judging from his CV I was surprised to see such an experienced leader allowing me to make strategic decisions, but that was Dr Sikipa. He gave me autonomy to work independently and update him when necessary. From him I learnt a lot of leadership qualities I apply in my everyday professional life. He shaped my career in a big way. After leaving Compre we met frequently because each time he was in the country he would call and make arrangements to meet. From these meetings I learnt the importance of social capital. Dr Sikipa loved helping people genuinely. May his soul rest in eternal peace. He fought a good fight. I wish I had an opportunity to meet him in his last days because he always had words of wisdom for my family and career. He always wanted to know how I am doing socially and professionally. His advice always, "create family time in your busy schedule because you are working hard for them".

Gift Makay - May 08, 2025 at 03:35 PM



“ *Tinashe Marowa*

Dr Sikipa I vividly recall you picking us up with Rufaro from St Michael's when we were in grade 1 and 2. Also when you invited me to spend a few weeks with your family in Nairobi, I had a great time with Rufaro, Shingai and Farai. I cherish all the family gatherings we used to have and I will always remember your kindness and generosity.

*We will miss you so much
May Your Dear Soul Rest In Peace*

Tinashe Marowa - May 08, 2025 at 12:24 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dr. Godfrey Gwaze Sikipa.*



May 08, 2025 at 12:20 PM

EM

“ Evaristo Marowa

I have known Dr Godfrey Sikipa since the mid-80s and interacted with him as a family friend and professional colleague. He was a dependable and loyal friend whose kindness shined through everything he did and was always willing to lend a helping hand. He provided positive guidance and constructive advice . He was of a gentle nature and was a good listener, qualities that made those around him feel comfortable.

He was an inspiration to work with. His work ethics were impeccable. He was passionate about outcome focused performance. He would work with you to resolve bottlenecks for smooth and effective program management and delivery. He led by example and was very supportive of the responses to HIV & AIDS and other health disciplines

His contribution to the health sector is immense and can neither be quantified nor adequately expressed in words.

I greatly benefitted from knowing and working with Dr Godfrey Sikipa

" Godfrey, you fought a good fight and rest in everlasting peace, "

Evaristo Marowa - May 08, 2025 at 10:04 AM

OM

My deepest condolences for the loss of this magical Permanent Secretary extraordinaire who hated bureaucracy. A Public Health Specialist who contributed tremendously to the health and welfare sector of Zimbabwe. And as Chairman of the PARIRENYATWA Group of Hospitals Board

We worked with him so well

GREAT GUY

MHDSRIP

FROM

DR OBADIAH MOYO

FORMER MINISTER OF HEALTH AND CHILD CARE

Obadiah Moyo - May 08, 2025 at 03:33 PM

MM

From Moeketsi Never MOLAI

To Dolly, boys dzangu and the grandchildren.

Devastated to hear of the passing of Dr. Godfrey Sikipa.

Met at Fletcher High School he was my senior but I gave him a torrid time during soccer practice sessions. He was a centre back for the school senior team and I was a centre forward for the school juniors team.

A cherished schoolmate, a trusted friend, and a devoted family ally. A distinguished medical doctor who had left an indelible mark not only in the healthcare field but in the lives of those fortunate enough to know him personally.

He stood beside me as the best man at my wedding—a role that spoke to the strength and depth of our friendship. Over the years, his warmth made him not just a colleague, but family. He graciously appointed me to the board of directors of two of his organisations, a reflection of the trust and respect we shared.

Whether visiting our home in Zimbabwe, or welcoming us to their homes in the USA he was always fun to be around but could only imbibe a few shots of whisky! Dr. Sikipa lived a life of service, connection, and generosity. His memory will remain forever etched in our hearts.

May his departed soul rest in eternal peace.

Moeketsi Never MOLAI - May 10, 2025 at 02:43 AM

SM

“ *Dr. Sikipa and I belonged to different generations of Zimbabwean doctors, yet every time I had the privilege to interact with him, he did so with a grace and humility that was truly remarkable given his outstanding achievements. May his family find comfort in knowing that his example inspired all who met him to become better people.*

Simbarashe Mabaya - May 08, 2025 at 07:25 AM

BM

“ *A Public Health giant has fallen, but his impact will last for decades through the many Public Health professionals that he mentored. Dr Brian Abel Maponga, President, Zimbabwe College of Public Health Physicians.*

Brian Abel Maponga - May 08, 2025 at 06:38 AM

BM

“ *I worked with Dr Sikipa when I was at MOHCC and at NAC. It always struck me that this gentleman was the Secretary of Health when I was in first year Medical School yet I would have done most of the talking. Looking back I should have listened to this fountain of wisdom more. RIP mukoma*

Bernard Madzima - May 08, 2025 at 04:30 AM

DT

Dr Sikipa was a humble person and I learned a lot when we interacted through his consulting days at Compre-health. This is a huge loss. May the family and friends be comforted by the Lord.

Donald D Tobaiwa - May 08, 2025 at 04:52 AM

IR

Dr Sikipa was a longtime Colleague and a Dear Friend of the Community Working Groupon Health (CWGH). A true Public Health Person and Champion of PHC for UHC - RIP Leadership as the Struggle for Health in Zimbabwe Continues..!

Itai Rusike - May 08, 2025 at 05:34 AM

LC

My inperson encounters with Dr Sikipa were 2 lunches each an hour long but the impact still resonates. He told me to dream bigger and encouraged I should do more as a public health professional. A soft spoken gentleman who despite his wealth of experience and accomplishments very humble, down to earth and a great listener. In the brief interaction he gave me an assignment to help find an African wife for one of his sons as a complement to his United Nations family. I'm sorry sir for not following through. Rest in peace.

Lillian Chinyanganya - May 08, 2025 at 06:33 AM

RC

“ *Met and worked with Dr Sikipa when he was leading CompreHealth Zimbabwe, an organization he founded to partner with MOH in the fight against HIV/AIDS. He was a such a humble and soft spoken father figure leader who was always ready and willing to teach and mentor young public health practitioners. One would never know that he's the same global icon that was so much revered because of his humbleness. He was very versatile, always approachable and very diplomatic in his interphase with colleagues big or small. He was part of the WHO task team that facilitated the end term evaluation of the national HIV strategic plan and the subsequent development of an integrated HIV,STI, and Hepatitis National strategic plan. In as much as we are saddened buy his passing on, we take solace in knowing he left a huge legacy for the country, the region and at global level. Rest in power doc. You were a true son of the soil MYDSRIEP ❤️*

Regis Chikomborero Choto - May 08, 2025 at 02:29 AM

BC

“ *A life lived fully, with compassion's gentle grace,
Sensitive to suffering, seeking to erase.*

*You touched many hearts, including mine—
Mentor, brother, a light that shined.*

*You gave your all, with nothing held back,
Leaving footprints on hearts that never lack.*

*Now you rest, your journey complete—
Go well, dear soul, in eternal peace.*

*You'll be missed beyond what words can say,
A guiding star that will never fade away.*

Rest in power . I appreciate all that you did!

Dr Brighton Chireka

Brighton Chireka - May 08, 2025 at 01:42 AM

DM

Truly gutted about the passing on of Sekuru Sikipa. A real gentleman in the true sense of the word. I remember when I moved to South Africa from the US and our long conversations as Dr. Sikipa gave me all sorts of advice on settling down here in 2019.

A man who seemed everywhere (the US, UK, Zim, SA, Kenya etc) yet was always present for anyone to give advice and to also just have a good laugh.

To my brother Tapiwa, you and I come a long way from our primary days at Hartmann House and I cannot imagine how hard this is.

You are now the head of the Sikipa family and I know you will lead your siblings, mom and all of sekuru Sikipa's grandchildren through this difficult time and will give sekuru Sikipa the beautiful send of he truly deserves.

Go well Dr. Sikipa.

Love, Dzingira Matenga

Dzingira Matenga - May 08, 2025 at 02:25 AM

SD

A beloved and faithful friend who truly lived life to the fullest. Your joy, love, and laughter lit up every room, and the memories we shared will stay with us forever. We will miss you deeply. Rest in peace Vakuru-vakuru! 💔🌸 Caleb, Shingai, Pondai, Fungai and Runyararo Dengu.

Shingai Dengu - May 10, 2025 at 05:54 PM