

A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

August 21, 2026



Nicole
Anyango Owino

August 11, 1996 - August 04, 2026



HER LIFE. HER LIGHT.

Although her time with us was far too short, **Nicole** left an indelible mark on everyone who knew and loved her. Today, we mourn her but also celebrate the beautiful, remarkable life she lived, the love, joy, and light she brought to our lives.

Nicole was a beautiful person, inside and out. She had a distinctive energy and presence that you felt whenever she was around. Her smile, warmth, and personality drew people towards her. Those who had the privilege of knowing her will carry her memory in their hearts forever.

Nicole was one week away from her 30th birthday. She was young, adventurous, curious, and never afraid to try new things. She embraced life with courage and enthusiasm. I remember how easily she learned how to ride a bicycle and drive a car. She was innately innovative and creative. She loved experimenting with her hair, creating beautiful, unique hairstyles for herself. **Nicole** had a wonderful ability to figure things out and make them her own.

Nicole was intelligent, warm, compassionate, and caring. From nursery school and every stage of her education, she excelled academically. Her determination and love of learning was evident from an early age. While in primary school in Kenya, we arranged for her to take her national eighth-grade examination, KCPE, a year early while in seventh grade. She excelled and earned admission to Vanessa Grant High School.

Her academic achievements continued throughout her life. She earned three associate degrees, an accomplishment that reflected her intelligence, discipline, and determination. At her passing, **Nicole** was taking a course in Computer Programming at Pikes Peak State College, continuing to prepare herself for a bright future she had every reason to look forward to.

Nicole was a loving daughter and a devoted sister. She shared a particularly close bond with her sister, Grace, and brother, Edmond. Her love for Grace was evident in the special role she played in Grace's life. In 2022, **Nicole** served as Grace's maid of honor, a beautiful memory our family will always cherish. **Nicole** was loyal, empathetic and in many ways an "old soul." At just eighteen months, she began asking the tough "why" questions. Nicole consistently sought clarity, was passionate about fairness, justice and always advocated for others.

Nicole's journey was not without challenges. Through much of her adult life, she struggled through several health problems and endured significant pain. She underwent various treatments, but unfortunately, doctors were unable to find a lasting solution to her conditions. Much of her treatment focused on managing her symptoms and relieving her pain.

Despite these difficulties, **Nicole** lived with remarkable courage. She continued to learn, dream, love, and live life as fully as she could.

HER LIFE. HER LIGHT.

Nicole's passing was sudden and heartbreaking. **Nicole** collapsed as she was entering our home through the kitchen door. Her mother, Christine, found her unresponsive on the kitchen floor. I called 911, and when the emergency responders arrived, **Nicole** had no pulse and was not breathing. They performed CPR and did everything they could to revive her before taking her to Memorial Hospital, where she was admitted to the Intensive Care Unit.

For five days, we prayed, hoped, and believed that somehow **Nicole** would pull through and come back to us. We held on to every possibility and cherished every moment. Despite the tremendous efforts by the medical team, **Nicole** did not recover. **Nicole** transitioned from this life five days after her collapse.

There are no words to adequately express the pain of losing a child. **Nicole** was not just our daughter; she was our precious child, our joy, our source of laughter, and a beautiful part of who we are. Her absence leaves a void in our family that can never be filled.

In our grief, we are grateful. We are grateful to God for the privilege of having **Nicole** in our lives for almost 30 years. We are grateful for every smile, every conversation, every accomplishment, every hug, every laugh, and every precious memory. We are grateful for the people whose lives she touched and for the love she gave so freely.

Nicole, our dearest darling, we will miss you forever. We will miss your beautiful smile, your laughter, your warmth, your creativity, and having you near us. We will carry your memory with us every day and speak your name with love.

We know this goodbye is not forever. We hold on to our faith and the hope that one day, by God's grace, we will be together again - to laugh together, to share our stories, to hold each other, and to once again say the words that will never cease to be true:

We love you, **Nicole**.

Rest peacefully, our beloved daughter. Until we meet again, you will forever remain in our hearts.

CHRISTINE & JAMES | PARENTS



NICOLE ANYANGO OWINO
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AMAZING GRACE + OPENING PRAYERS

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!

The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace that 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.



The LORD be with you. And also with you. Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our sister Nicole. We thank you for giving her to us, her family and friends, to know and to love as a companion on our earthly pilgrimage.

In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see in death the gate of eternal life, so that in quiet confidence we may continue our course on earth, until, by your call, we are reunited with those who have gone before; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding:
Deal graciously with Nicole's family and friends in their grief.
Surround them with your love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss,
but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE WORD

HEBREW SCRIPTURE

Job 19:21-27

Have pity on me, have pity on me, O you my friends, for the hand of God has touched me!

Why do you, like God, pursue me, never satisfied with my flesh?

"O that my words were written down! O that they were inscribed in a book!

O that with an iron pen and with lead they were engraved on a rock forever!

For I know that my vindicator[a] lives and that in the end he will stand upon the earth;

and after my skin has been destroyed, then in my flesh I shall see God,

whom I shall see on my side, and my eyes shall behold, and not another My heart faints within me!

Psalms 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:

Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

EPISTLE

1 John 3:1-2

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he[a] is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.

THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST

John 14:1-6

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

The gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE GOSPEL + OUR FAITH

In the assurance of eternal life given at Baptism, let us proclaim our faith and say,

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
And born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**



THE PRAYERS

For our sister **Nicole**, let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said,
" I am Resurrection and I am Life."

Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for **Nicole** and dry the tears of those who weep.

HEAR US, LORD.

You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend; comfort us in our sorrow.

HEAR US, LORD.

You raised the dead to life; give to our sister **Nicole** eternal life.

HEAR US, LORD.

You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our sister to the joys of heaven.

HEAR US, LORD.

Nicole was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give her fellowship with all your saints.

HEAR US, LORD.

Nicole was nourished with your Body and Blood; grant her a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom.

HEAR US, LORD.

Comfort us in our sorrows at the death of our sister; let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.

Father of all, we pray to you for **Nicole**, and for all those whom we love but see no longer.

Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them.

May her soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

AMEN.

The peace of the Lord always be with you. **And also with you.**



PEACE + PROMISE

IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL

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."
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 has shed his own blood for my soul.
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!
O 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.



THE COMMENDATION

Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints,
**where sorrow and pain are no more,
neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

You only are immortal, the creator and maker of humankind; and we are mortal,
formed of the earth, and to earth shall we return.
For so did you ordain when you created me, saying,
"You are dust, and to dust you shall return."

All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia.

**Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints,
where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Nicole.
Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold,
a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming.
Receive her into the arms of your mercy,
into the blessed rest of everlasting peace,
and into the glorious company of the saints in light. **AMEN.**

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

LOVED & REMEMBERED

GRACE HERA | SISTER

Words to describe my sister are yet to be invented. The closest I can come is enchanted.

She came into this world when I was six years old, and to my six-year-old brain it was pure magic, the little sibling I had wished for, appearing like a wish upon a star. She was always magical.

She moved through the world like no one else. She felt deeply, she spoke boldly, she did things her own way and lived on her own terms, and if she didn't like something, she would let you know.

We were very different, she and I. She the listener, I the talker. She the discerning one, I the analytical one. She the brave one, I the cautious one. And with all our differences, we made a good pair. We were always what the other needed.

She taught me to look at the world with wonder. She taught me to stand up for myself a little bit more. She taught me to find the beauty in the simple things in life. And above all, she taught me how to love, through joy, through pain, through laughter and through tears.

My baby sister, my lovely Nikkie, my darling Short Stuff, I miss you. I miss your laugh, your funny quips, your determination, your ferocity in defending what you believed in. I miss you noticing my worry and my pain. I miss the belly laughs and the High School Musical references.

I will miss you championing all my crazy ideas. I will miss the amalgamation of languages we spoke, because you are the only other person who speaks the same combination of languages as I do. I will miss your kindness. I will miss seeing myself through your eyes. I will miss you in your entirety.

I loved you since. I love you now. I love you always.

Rest well my darling!



JONATHAN HERA | BROTHER-IN-LAW

Even now, I can't believe that this tragedy happened. I want to believe it didn't, that everything has just been a bad dream. Unfortunately, here we are, coming together to remember the life of someone so bright. Someone that has been a part of my life for almost a third of it. Someone whose presence I will never be able to forget. Someone that was truly loved.

NICOLE ANYANGO OWINO

August 11, 1996 - August 04, 2026

LOVED & REMEMBERED

Nikki was my sister-in-law. Family. And she was a complex individual. She had her highs, and unfortunately, her lows; however, she was someone who always made you want to cheer her on.

I will always remember the Friday dinner nights where we would just chat, share a meal together, and just, exist. It was such a normal event, but it was special. All of us together. We would chat about how everyone was doing and how their week had been. What we all had going on. It was nice.

Nikki especially would open up about what she was up to and what she was trying next. A lot of the time, she just needed someone to listen. I will cherish those days in my memory and remember her as she was, funny and bright. A unique individual who stood up for her beliefs, learned all that she could, and who was there for all of us.

The coming days will be difficult. I know this, but I will never forget her. With that, I will miss her greatly and her absence will be felt.



EDDY KATANA | BROTHER

Nikki was wonderfully and unapologetically herself - honest, fearless, and never afraid to speak her mind. That authenticity was one of the things I admired most about her.

I treasured the bond we shared and how excited she became whenever we discovered something else we had in common - psychology, public speaking, overthinking, empathy, hugs, and, of course, superhero movies.

I will miss her stories and especially her infectious laughter. I was proud of her creativity, her love of art and music, and her gift for languages, particularly Spanish and her growing interest in Swahili translation.

I wish we had more time - more conversations, stories, laughter, and hugs. But I am grateful for every moment we had.

Nicole, you made my world richer simply by being in it. Your voice, your laughter, your creativity, and your love will remain with me always.

Rest peacefully, my sister. Until we meet again.

With all my love.

NICOLE ANYANGO OWINO
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A MOMENT TO REMEMBER

SHE IS GONE BY DAVID HARKINS

"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."



BURIAL

The burial will take place at Evergreen Cemetery immediately following the service.
1005 Hancock Expressway Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903

MEET AT THE EVERGREEN CEMETERY CHAPEL, CEMETERY STAFF WILL GIVE DIRECTIONS TO THE BURIAL SITE.

REPAST

A repast at Chapel of Our Saviour will follow the burial.
8 4th Street
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80906

All are very welcome.



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THE COMMITTAL

Everyone the Father gives to me will come to me;
I will never turn away anyone who believes in me.

He who raised Jesus Christ from the dead
will also give new life to our mortal bodies through his indwelling Spirit.

My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope.

You will show me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy,
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life
through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to Almighty God our sister Nicole,
and we commit her body to the ground;
earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust

The Lord bless her and keep her, the Lord make his face to shine upon her
and be gracious to her, the Lord lift up his countenance upon her
and give her peace. **Amen.**



Father of all, we pray to you for those we love, but see no longer:
Grant them your peace; let light perpetual shine upon them;
and, in your loving wisdom and almighty power,
Work in them the good purpose of your perfect will;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.
The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

