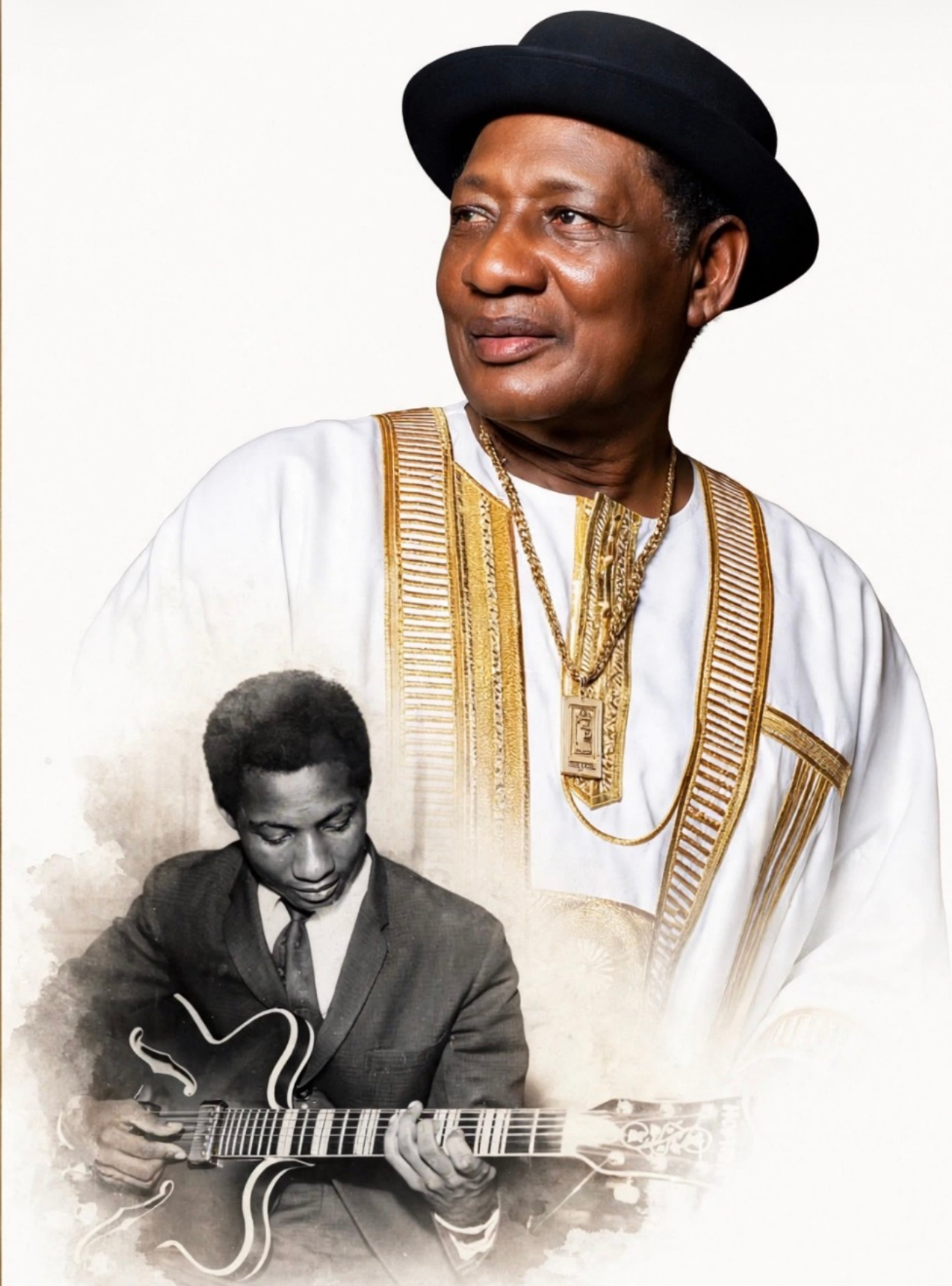




IN LOVING MEMORY OF A MUSIC LEGEND

EBO TAYLOR

1936 - 2026

Burial & Thanksgiving Service

For the Late

Final Farewell •

Saturday 1st & Sunday 2nd August, 2026

Victoria Park, Saltpond @ 12pm-6pm

Thanksgiving Service

Sunday 2nd August, 2026 at
Wesley Methodist Church,
Saltpond @ 9:00am

DE ROY EBO TAYLOR

A. K. A. EBO TAYLOR

1936-2026

The Legendary Ebo Taylor 01



OFFICIATING CLERGY
For The Late
EBO TAYLOR'S
BURIAL SERVICE

1. Rt. Rev. Richardson Aboakye Andam
2. Very Rev. Isaac William Ofori-Mintah
3. Very Rev. Samuel K. Bessa-Simons
4. Very Rev. Franklin Aidoo

5. Very Rev. Frank Osei Tutu

6. Rev. Helena Egyirba Odoo
7. Rev. Emmanuel Botchwey

8. Bro. Frederick Incoom
9. Bro. Solomon Amoah
10. Bro. Samuel Koomson

WESLEY SOCIETY STEWARDS

1. Sis. Mercy Acolatse
2. Sis. Joyce Arhin
3. Bro. Godfred Nyame

ORGANISTS

Bro. Samuel Adouku

Bishop – Cape Diocese
Supt. Minister, Saltpond Circuit
Retired Superintendent
Chaplain, Mfantseman Girls
Senior High School
2nd Minister-Wesley Society,
Saltpond
Circuit Minister-Kormantse
Circuit Minister -Freeman
Society - Nankesedo
Circuit Steward-Finance
Circuit Steward-Administration
Circuit Evangelist



OUTLINE

BURIAL SERVICE

1. Procession
2. Scripture Sentences
3. Declaration of Purpose
Steward
MHB 528, CAN 172
4. Hymn
MHB 50, CAN 14
5. Prayer
6. Hymn
MHB 679, CAN 227
7. Biography and Tributes
8. Hymn
a. Psalm 90:1–12
b. John 14:1–6, 27
MHB 878, CAN 285
9. Scripture Readings
Rev. Minister
10. Hymn
11. Sermon
By the Choir
12. Affirmation of Faith
Steward, Family Member
13. Anthem
14. Notices
15. Offertory

THANKSGIVING & COMMENDATION

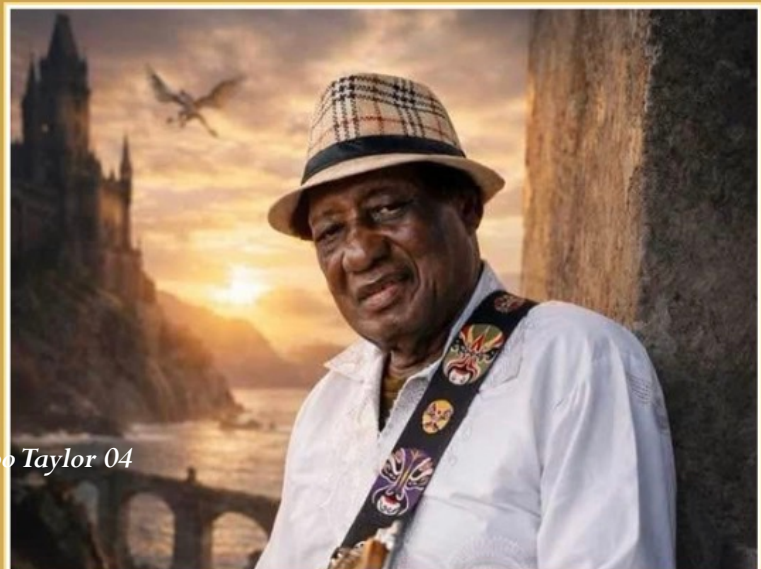
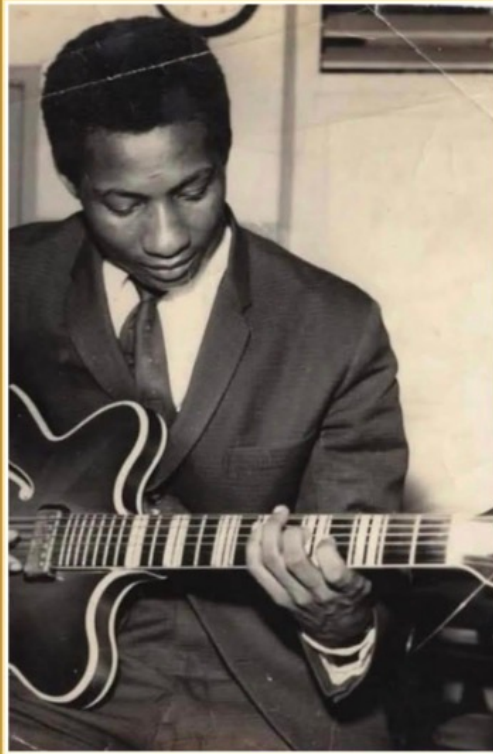
1. Hymn
MHB 602, CAN 196
2. Prayer of Commendation
3. The Lord's Prayer
4. Hymn
MHB 608, CAN 199
5. Closing Prayer & Benediction
6. Dead March in Saul
7. Recess

PART THREE (2)

AT THE GRAVE SIDE

1. Hymn
MHB 615, CAN 203
2. Committal and Prayer
Rev.
3. Vote of Thanks
Family Member
4. Hymn
CAN 324
5. Benediction
Rev.

Ebo Taylor 1936 - 2026



A portrait of Ebo Taylor, a man wearing a hat and a white shirt, holding a guitar, with a dramatic sunset background. The background features a large, ornate building, possibly a cathedral, and a bird flying in the sky. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow. The man is looking towards the camera with a slight smile. The guitar strap is decorated with colorful patterns.

Bio graphy

The Legendary Ebo Taylor 05

THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF EBO TAYLOR [1936–2026]

Early Life and Education

Ebo Taylor (born Deroy Taylor) was born on 6 January 1936 in Cape Coast, Ghana, to Samuel Taylor and Mrs. Sarah Taylor (Ewuraba Esi Nkrumah). His early environment was deeply musical; encouraged by his father, he first developed an affinity for music on the family organ before transitioning to the guitar. He attended Jubilee School in Cape Coast and later St. Augustine's Secondary School, where he honed his skills as a performer. In 1962, recognizing his extraordinary potential, Ghana's first President, Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, awarded him a government scholarship to study music at the Eric Gilder School of Music in London.

His time in Soho, London—the epicenter of the 1960s global music explosion—allowed him to form foundational creative relationships with peers such as Fela Kuti, Teddy Osei, and Sol Amarfo, which were instrumental in shaping his pioneering approach to African sound.

The Architect of the Golden Era

Upon returning to Ghana, Ebo Taylor became the sonic architect of the Ghanaian "Golden Era." As a composer, arranger, and Musical Director at Essiebons Records, he was instrumental in the commercial and artistic success of legends like Pat Thomas, Gyedu-Blay Ambolley, Papa Yankson, Jewel Ackah, C.K. Mann, A.B. Crentsil, K. Frimpong and many others. Taylor's genius lay in his philosophy of synthesis; he refused to simply "mix" genres. Drawing deeply from his Fante roots and his mother's storytelling *griot* lineage, he consciously synthesized indigenous rhythms with jazz, soul, funk, and Afrobeat, ensuring his modern fusions maintained an authentic African vernacular that separated his



work from mere imitation.

The Man, The Family, and The Saltpond Anchor

While his music reached global stages, Ebo Taylor remained a deeply private and community-oriented man. He was a dedicated husband to his beloved widow, Mrs. Elina Taylor, and a devoted father and grandfather. His decision to remain based in Saltpond throughout his life was not merely a matter of convenience; it was a deliberate choice to ground his artistic life in family stability and community service.

To those in the music industry, he was affectionately known as "Uncle Ebo." This title reflected his role as a mentor who kept his doors open to young musicians, treating his mentorship as a natural extension of his personal character. He instilled his work ethic and love for the arts within his own home, ensuring that his legacy was not just defined by record sales, but by the values he passed on to his children and the wider community of musicians he nurtured.

The Legendary Ebo Taylor 06

Bands and Academic Contribution

Taylor performed with influential groups, including the Stargazers, Broadway Dance Band, the Black Star Highlife Band, the Pelikans and the Uhuru-Yenzu Band. He founded the Bonze Kokoma Band, the Saltpond City Band, and the Ebo Taylor Family Band. In 2001, he joined the Department of Music at the University of Ghana, Legon. As a lecturer, he helped formalize Highlife as an academic discipline, teaching performance, composition, and improvisation with the wisdom of four decades of professional practice.

Recordings and International Influence

His solo discography includes *My Love and Music* (1975), *Ebo Taylor* (1977), *Twer Nyame* (1978), *Conflict Nkru!* (1980), *Love and Death* (2010), *Appia Kwa Bridge* (2012), *Yen Ara* (2018), *Palaver*, and his final work, *Ebo Taylor JID022* (2025).

His later international resurgence—facilitated by labels like Strut, BBE, and Jazz Is Dead—was a testament to his ability to bridge generations. His work has been sampled by international icons including Usher, The Black Eyed Peas, and Kelly Rowland, Jidenna, Vic Mensa, Rapsody, Sadat X, Curren\$y, Guapdad 4000 and many other artists and producers proving that his foundational "musical language" remains vital to contemporary hip-hop, R&B, and jazz.

Awards and Honours

Ebo Taylor's contributions were recognized by numerous prestigious institutions throughout his career:

- **Government of Ghana Scholarship (1962):** Awarded by President Dr. Kwame Nkrumah for studies at the Eric Gilder School of Music, London.
- **Vodafone Ghana Music Awards (VGMA) Industry Awards (2014):** Recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award.
- **Music In Africa Honorary Award (2019):** Presented at the ACCES conference in Accra, honouring his monumental contribution to African music.
- **Highlife Music Awards (2019):** Lifetime Achievement Award.
- **Ghana Business Awards (2019):** Named "Music Legend of the Year."
- **Global Cultural Recognition:** His work has been celebrated through numerous international reissues by labels such as Strut Records, BBE Music, and Jazz Is Dead, cementing his status as a global musical ambassador.

Passing and Legacy

Ebo Taylor passed away peacefully in Saltpond on 7 February 2026 at the age of 90. He is survived by Mrs. Elina Taylor, his children, grandchildren, and a global community of admirers.

Ebo Taylor is remembered today as a titan of African music. As a family man, mentor, and visionary, he transformed Ghanaian music and elevated it to the world stage. His legacy is one of unwavering commitment—to his family, to his home in Saltpond, and to the eternal preservation of Ghana's cultural heritage. His music remains a timeless testament to a life lived in harmony with tradition and innovation.



The Legendary Ebo Taylor 07



The Legendary Ebo Taylor 08



Tribute By Widow

MRS. ELINA TAYLOR

**"The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."
Psalm 34:18"**

My beloved De, as I affectionately call you.

Today, with a heart full of love, gratitude, and cherished memories, I pay tribute to a remarkable man whom I was privileged to call my husband, my companion, and my best friend.

Our journey together was one of love, faith, sacrifice, and unwavering commitment. Through every season of life, you stood by me with kindness, patience, and understanding. You were not only a devoted husband and loving father, but also a man whose humility and compassion touched everyone who came into contact with you.

To the world, you were an extraordinary musician and a true legend. To me, you were simply my Ebo — the man whose presence brought comfort, whose smile brought joy, and whose love made our house a home.

One thing I admired deeply about you was your gentle spirit. No matter the situation or how deeply you were hurt, you would always say, "It's alright." Those words reflected grace, forgiveness, and peace that defined your life. You chose love over bitterness and understanding over anger, and for that, you earned the respect and affection of many.

Together, we built a beautiful family and shared countless memories that I will treasure forever. I will miss our conversations, our laughter, and the simple moments we spent together. Even in your busiest years and throughout your travels, your love for your family remained steadfast and unwavering.

Although your physical presence is no longer with us, I find comfort in knowing that your legacy lives on through your music, your values, and the lives you touched. Thank you for the love you gave so freely, for the sacrifices you made, and for the wonderful years we shared.

You have fought the good fight, completed your race, and left behind a legacy that will continue to inspire generations.

Rest peacefully, my beloved husband.

Until we meet again, I will forever love you, cherish your memory, and thank God for the gift of your life.

With all my love,

Your Loving Wife





Tribute from the **CHILDREN** OF THE LATE **EBO TAYLOR**

Dad, it is difficult to find the right words to express the depth of our love and gratitude as we honor your remarkable life. To the world, you were the legendary Ebo Taylor, a musical icon whose talent and influence transcended generations and borders. To us, however, you were simply Dad — our source of strength, wisdom, love, and unwavering support.

We have been blessed to witness not only your greatness as a musician but also your humility as a man. Despite your achievements and worldwide recognition, you remained grounded, approachable, and full of grace. One of the many lessons you taught us was the power of forgiveness. No matter the circumstances, you would often say, “It’s alright,” choosing peace and understanding above all else.

You led by example, teaching us the importance of hard work, integrity, respect, and compassion. You encouraged us to pursue our dreams while always remembering the value of family and the importance of treating others with kindness.

Some of our most treasured memories are the simple moments we shared together — the conversations, the laughter, the music, and the joy of being

in your presence. Those moments strengthened the bonds of our family and gave us memories that we will carry in our hearts forever.

Dad, your life was a blessing, your love was a gift, and your legacy will continue to inspire generations to come. Though we mourn your absence, we are comforted by the incredible life you lived and the impact you made on so many people around the world.

Thank you for being our father, our teacher, and our greatest example. We are proud to be your children, and we will continue to honor your memory by living according to the values you instilled in us.

Rest peacefully, Dad.
You will forever remain in our hearts.
Lovingly,
Your Children

Children of the late Ebo Taylor



Mrs. Ewurabena Edzieni



Mrs. Sandra Oku



Michael Taylor



Louis Taylor



Franklin Taylor



Richmond Arhin



Kwaku Taylor



Henry Taylor



Mrs. Sandra S. Taylor Bentil



Benjamin Ekow Taylor



William Taylor



Roy X Taylor



Mercy Taylor

The Legendary Ebo Taylor 11

TRIBUTE FROM EBO TAYLOR'S GRANDCHILDREN

Grandpa Ebo, Words cannot fully express how much you meant to us. You were more than a grandfather; you were a source of love, wisdom, strength, and inspiration. Your gentle guidance, warm smile, and unwavering support created memories that we will cherish forever.

We are grateful for the precious moments we shared with you, the stories you told, and the values you instilled in our family. Your life was a beautiful example of dedication, humility, and love, and your legacy will continue to live on through each of us.

One of the memories we will treasure most is the time we spent together in the evenings — singing, dancing, laughing, and simply enjoying each other's company. Those joyful moments brought our family closer and filled our hearts with happiness. They are memories we will carry with us forever.

We will never forget your humble and forgiving nature. No matter what anyone did against you, you always responded with calmness and kindness, often saying, "It's alright." Your ability to forgive, overlook wrongs, and show compassion taught us one of life's greatest lessons — to love and treat others with grace.

As your grandchildren, we are proud to have been blessed with a grandfather whose influence reached far beyond our family. To the world, you were a legend, but to us, you were simply Grandpa — loving, caring, and always present.

For some time now, we had not been seeing you as often, and Grandma

lovingly told us that you had gone on tour, just as you always did, and that you would be back soon. We held on to those words because that was what Grandpa always did — travel, perform, and return home with stories and love. Although your journey has now taken you beyond our sight, we find comfort in knowing that your love and legacy remain with us forever.

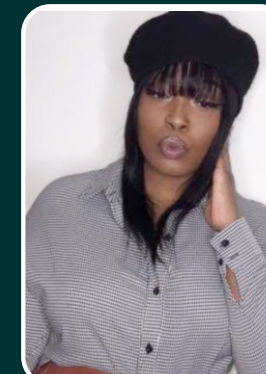
Though we will deeply miss your voice, laughter, and comforting presence, we take comfort in knowing that your memories and the impact you made will remain with us forever.

Thank you for the love you gave so freely and for the foundation you laid for generations to come. We celebrate your remarkable life and honor the legacy you leave behind.

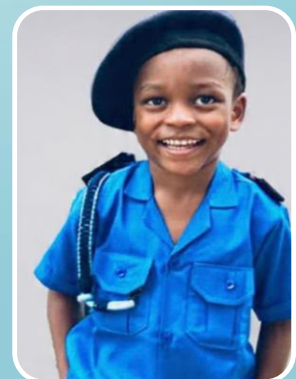
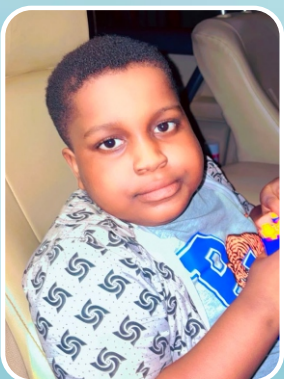
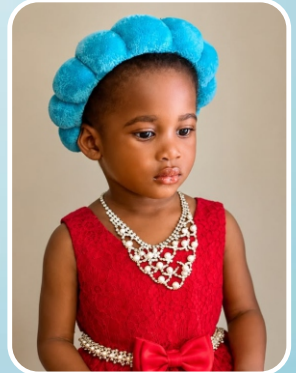
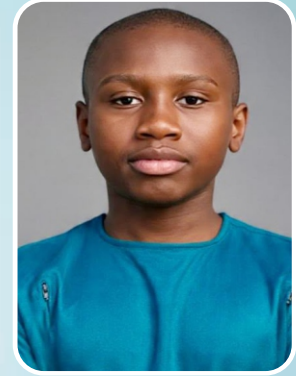
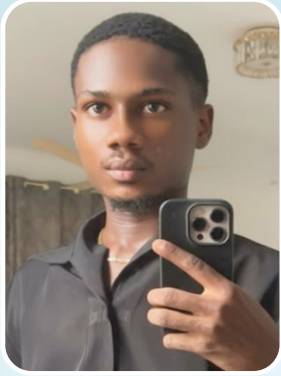
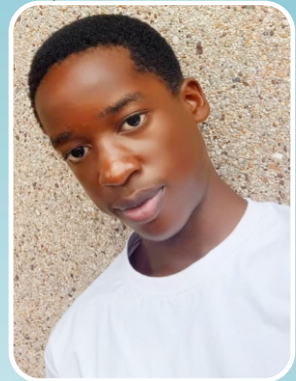
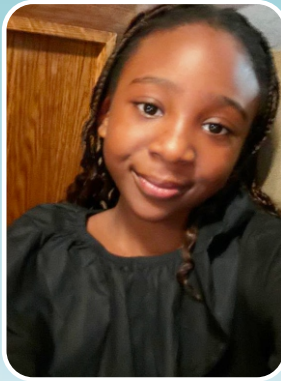
Rest peacefully, Grandpa. Your songs, your spirit, and the joy of those evenings spent singing and dancing together will forever remain in our hearts.

With love always,
Your Grandchildren

Grandchildren of the late Ebo Taylor



Grandchildren of the late Ebo Taylor



TRIBUTE FROM EBO TAYLOR'S GREAT GRANDCHILDREN

Dear Great-Grandpa,

Although we didn't get to see you because we lived far away, we have come to know the kind of man you were through the beautiful stories shared by our parents and grandparents. They spoke of your kindness, your humility, your loving heart, and the joy you brought to everyone around you.

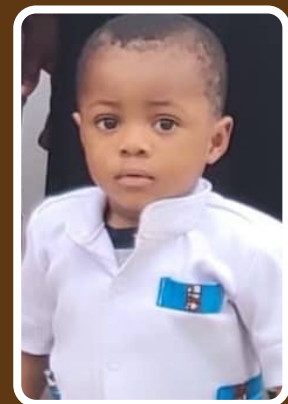
We have learned that you were not only a legendary musician but also a devoted family man whose love reached across generations. Even though we never had the opportunity to meet you in person, we are proud to call you our Great-Grandpa and grateful for the legacy you have left behind.

Your music will continue to inspire us, and your values of kindness, respect, and humility will guide us as we grow. We promise to honor your memory and carry your legacy forward with pride.

Rest peacefully, Great-Grandpa. Though we didn't get to see you, your love, your music, and your legacy will remain in our hearts forever.

With all our love,

Your Great-Grandchildren



TRIBUTE FROM THE IN-LAWS TO THE LATE EBO TAYLOR

Today, we join the Taylor family and countless loved ones in celebrating the life of an extraordinary man whose kindness, wisdom, and humility touched everyone who had the privilege of knowing him.

Ebo, from the very first day you welcomed us into your family, you made us feel accepted, respected, and loved. You never treated us as outsiders; instead, you embraced us as your own. Your warmth, generosity, and genuine concern for others created a bond that will remain with us forever.

You were a man of quiet strength and unwavering integrity. Your gentle spirit, wise counsel, and calm nature brought comfort and encouragement to many. No matter the situation, your reassuring words, "It's alright," reflected the forgiving heart and grace with which you lived your life.

Beyond your extraordinary achievements in music, we will remember you most for the husband, father, grandfather, and family man that you were. Your love for your family was evident in everything you did. You led by example, teaching us the importance of humility, respect, perseverance, and compassion.

Your home was always filled with warmth, laughter, and music. Every visit became a cherished memory, and every conversation left us wiser and encouraged. Your smile, your sense of humour, and your welcoming spirit made everyone feel at home.

Although our hearts are heavy with sorrow, we are deeply grateful for the blessing of having shared life's journey with you. We take comfort in knowing that your remarkable legacy will continue to live on through your family, your music, and the countless lives you inspired around the world.

Thank you for your love, your friendship, your wisdom, and the unforgettable memories we will treasure forever.

Rest peacefully, dear Ebo. You have run your race with honour and dignity. Though you are no longer with us in body, your spirit, your music, and the values you lived by will remain in our hearts for generations to come.

Farewell, our beloved brother, father, and friend.

May God grant you eternal rest.



EBO TAYLOR'S TIME WITH FAMILY



EBO TAYLOR'S TIME WITH FAMILY



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The Legendary Ebo Taylor 19



The Legendary Ebo Taylor 20



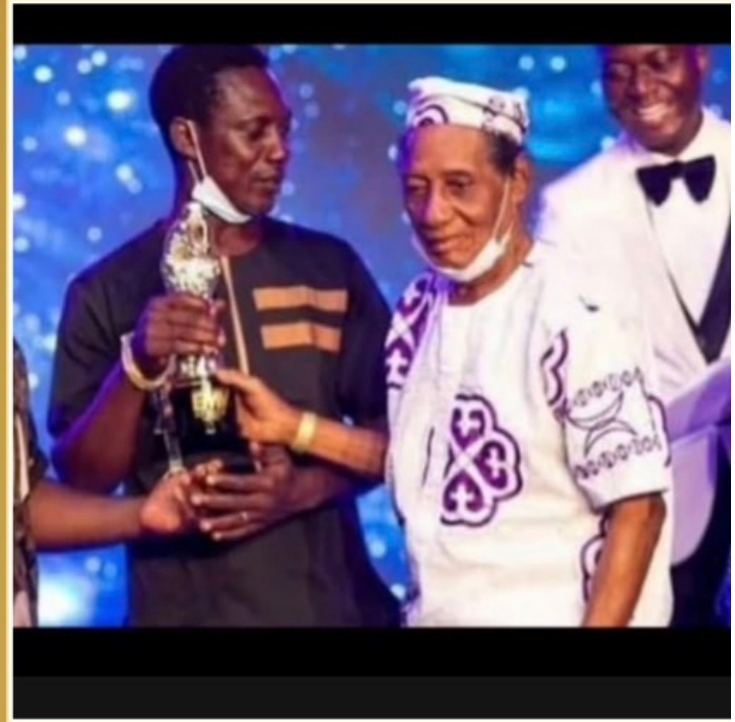
EBO TAYLOR'S 90TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION





Ebo Taylor Stage Performances

1936 - 2026



EBO TAYLOR'S TIME WITH FANS



EBO TAYLOR'S TIME WITH FANS



The Legendary Ebo Taylor 26

Forever in our hearts
— His music lives on —
1936-2026

Ebo Taylor with Family Band team



The Legendary Ebo Taylor 27

EBO TAYLOR FAMILY BAND TEAM



**TRIBUTE TO THE LATE
DEROY EBO TAYLOR
FROM BROTHER AND SISTER IN-LAWS.
(1936 - FEBRUARY 2026)**

With heavy hearts yet deep gratitude to God for a life well lived, we—your brother and sister in-laws honor and celebrate the remarkable life of our beloved brother-in-law, Deroy Ebo Taylor Sr.

Deroy was not just a family man; he was a legend, a pioneer, and a global voice of African rhythm. As a distinguished Afro Jazz musician, he carried the heartbeat of Ghana to the world, helping shape and introduce the powerful sounds of Afrobeat music across continents. His music was more than sound—it was history, identity, and a bridge connecting Africa to the global stage.

Born in 1936, Deroy's journey through life was marked by passion, creativity, and unwavering dedication to his craft. Through his melodies, he spoke truths, inspired generations, and preserved culture in its most vibrant form. His legacy in music will forever echo in the hearts of those who danced to his rhythms and found meaning in his songs.

Beyond his musical greatness, we knew him as a humble, wise, and loving man. He carried himself with dignity, offered guidance freely, and embraced family with warmth and sincerity. His presence brought joy, his words brought comfort, and his life brought purpose to many.

As it is written in Scripture:

"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." — 2 Timothy 4:7

And as an African proverb reminds us:

"A great man never truly dies; his legacy lives on in the hearts of his people."

In the wisdom of the Akan people of Ghana:

"Nnipawua, w ndindew nhotenaase."
(**"When a person dies, their name lives on"**—a reminder that the legacy of a great elder never fades.)

Though he departed this world in February 2026 at Saltpond Government Hospital in Ghana, his spirit lives on—in his music, in his family, and in the countless lives he touched. The silence he leaves behind is profound, but the legacy he leaves is even louder.

We will forever cherish his memory, honor his contributions, and celebrate the gift he was to us and to the world.

Rest peacefully, dear brother.
Your rhythm will never fade.

Signed:

Johnnie Barkers-Okwan
(Queens, New York, USA)

Abeku Barkers-Okwan
(Bronx, New York, USA)

Alfred Barkers-Okwan
(Vineland, New Jersey, USA)

Albeta Okwan, Saltpond.

Sophia B Okwan Saltpond.

EBO TAYLOR TIME WITH FRIENDS



The Legendary Ebo Taylor 30



TRIBUTE BY EBO TAYLOR FAMILY BAND

To Our Father, Our Maestro, Our Uncle Ebo,

Where do we begin when the rhythm itself taught us how to speak?

You put the guitar in our hands before we could spell our own names. You showed us that a horn line could preach, that a polyrhythm could pray, and that Highlife wasn't just music — it was a contract with our people. "I have a contract with my people and I can't effectuate that from anywhere else," you told us. We heard you, Dad. We still do.

Henry Taylor remembers sitting at the keys while you hummed "Heaven" in the next room, correcting his chords without even looking. "Again. Feel it, don't count it." You taught us that soul comes before technique.

Roy X Taylor still bends his strings trying to catch the same fire you pulled from "Love and Death." You never played a note that didn't mean something. You said, "If the guitar doesn't cry, start over." Ours cries for you now.

William Taylor holds down the low end on bass just like you taught him — "The bass is the heartbeat. If it stumbles, the whole body falls." He hasn't missed a step since.

Okutey keeps the congas talking because you said percussion is the language our ancestors understand. Every slap and roll is a conversation with you.

Osab makes the trombone preach with that same spirit you brought to the horn section. You told him, "Don't just blow — testify." And he does, every night.

Andy sits behind the drums guarding the pulse you gave us. "Rhythm is the key," you'd say. He's never unlocked the wrong door.

Godson lifts the trumpet to the sky the way you taught him — "Let it sound like sunrise over Cape Coast." It still does. Kweku Taylor, as band manager, protects the mission. You trusted him to carry the name, the dates, the legacy. "Keep the

family together, keep the music honest." He guards both like you're still watching.

Eric Trosset, as promoter and coordinator, makes sure the world hears what you started. You told him, "Take this music to every corner, but never sell the soul." He books the stages, opens the doors, and keeps your contract traveling. Because of him, the next city is always ready for the Family Band.

On the Farewell To The Americas tour, you let us stand beside you. You called us your Family Band, but you were the family. The stage was our church, and you were the pastor with a Stratocaster. You gave the world Yen Ara, Appia Kwa Bridge, Atwer Abroba, and you gave us your name. We will not waste it.

The world says "giant," "pioneer," "father of Afrobeat." We just say Dad. Uncle Ebo. The man who came home after every show, took off his hat, and asked if we'd eaten.

Your light hasn't faded. It's in every horn stab, every Ghanaian backing vocal that rises like incense, every young kid in Cape Coast picking up a guitar because they heard "Aba Yaa."

We promise you this: The contract continues. The Family Band will keep the horns swirling, the guitars gritty, and the rhythm as the key. Saltpond City Band, Westcoast Ebusua Band, Santrofi, Peter Somuah — we're all your children now.

Rest well, Maestro. We'll see you at the bridge.

"Nsa a w'oanye edwuma, onya nam" — and your work is done. Ours is just beginning. With love, pride, and every note we'll ever play,

Henry Taylor - Keys
Roy X Taylor - Guitar
William Taylor - Bass Guitar
Okutey - Percussion
Osab - Trombone
Andy - Drums
Godson - Trumpet
Kweku Taylor - Band Manager
Eric Trosset - Promoter & Coordinator
The Ebo Taylor Family Band
February 7, 2026, and forever

TRIBUTE FROM NIECES AND NEPHEWS

Uncle Ebo Taylor whose mortal remains lie here was affectionately called Michael Ebo Leroy Taylor by his late parents, Madam Sarah Ewuraba Esi Nkrumah and Samuel Kojo Taylor all of blessed memory.

After he completed St. Augustine's College where he polished his music career as a guitarist. He used to play guitar at home in Adisadel Estate where his parents lived and anytime he played we his nieces and nephews always gathered around him and danced to the rhythm. So we started calling him "Uncle Ebo guitar man" to distinguish between him and his two brothers Uncle Kwaku Taylor and Ato Taylor all of blessed memory.

Uncle Ebo was loving, kind and down to earth for us all when we were very young as he was the last born of his parents and loved by his siblings he was very close to all his nephews and nieces when we are present together.

Uncle Ebo's music career inspired us all especially during Cape- Coast Afahye festival times where he used to play at Cape- Coast town hall with 'Uhuru band'. He was there for us all or anytime our parents needed his help.

Uncle Ebo your departure from earth has left a huge void in our

lives. You had a remarkable legacy of service to us and your legacy will live on in our hearts. You maybe gone but you will always be in our hearts. We will miss you and we will never forget the wonderful memories we shared.

On this fateful day we wish to bid you farewell and thank God for being part of our family, May Almighty God receive you into his bosom'. Greetings to Auntie Akua, Mad. Afua Tawiah, Uncle Kwaku Atta and Auntie Ekua Atta, Uncle Ato all of blessed memory.

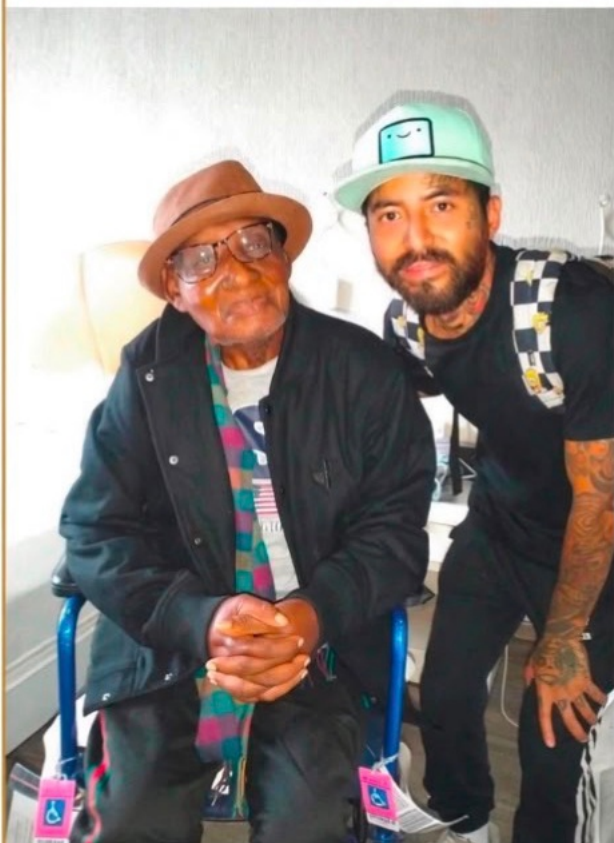
Eternal rest be granted on you and let the perpetual light shine on you. Till, we meet again, rest well Uncle Ebo.

We love you always.

Dayie

Amen.

EBO TAYLOR'S TIME WITH FANS



The Legendary Ebo Taylor 33



TRIBUTE FROM KYEKYEKU

Dear Uncle Ebo Taylor,

I still remember those words you spoke to me. I still remember how elated I became when you agreed that I opened for you in Paris. It was my first ever concert in Paris.

I still remember all the jokes you made backstage.

The lessons I learnt from you are enormous. But amongst them the fact to remain humble and humanity above all else. That family and community are the most important things.

I don't think you have left us at all. I think you have left your footprints in the sands of time.

So now uncle enjoy this merited peace and rest that the creator has called you to. For you do not have to toil again, the path that you prepared will always be kept leading through your children and their children and myself who is indebted in countless amounts to you.

Da yie Uncle Ebo.

TRIBUTE FROM Maurizio Lopez American Tour Manager

Ebo Taylor.

I had the incredible honor and joy of being able to meet and work with Ghana's very own, the one and only Ebo Taylor.

From falling in love with his music to touring with him across the Americas, I learned a lot from Ebo and consider myself beyond grateful to have been able to be a part of his journey of life. I've never seen a soul be moved so much by the beautiful thing that is music, and what Ebo gave to the world in song is priceless.

Ebo, thank you for everything.
For the music, the wisdom, and the friendship.

Highlife Forever.



Tribute to

EBO TAYLOR FROM ERIC TROSSET

COMET RECORDS-PARIS FRANCE

EBO TAYLOR'S INTERNATIONAL MANAGER

PARIS (FRANCE) LE 12 JUILLET 2026

A voice has fallen silent, peacefully, surrounded by his wife and his loved ones, at home in Saltpond, the town that was always his. That very evening, in Accra, his son Henry, together with his brothers William and Roy, led the Saltpond City Band on stage. Could there be a more fitting tribute than this — his own children and his own band honouring Ebo by celebrating the legacy of an immense artist who devoted his entire life to music, to his very last breath?

I first saw Ebo Taylor perform, on stage, in the summer of 2010, in a club in Paris, with the members of Berlin's Afrobeat Academy, already accompanied by his son Henry Taylor. Beyond the magic of that concert, which had swept the audience into a true afro-funk trance, it was this very voice — one I was hearing for the first time — that moved me completely, to tears. A voice at once delicate and restrained, yet honed like a blade, settling with absolute precision over the band's unstoppable groove.

Right up to his final days, as on his farewell tour of the Americas in the spring of 2025, alongside his lifelong companion Pat Thomas, Ebo Taylor carried that voice — the voice of highlife — far beyond the borders of his hometown of Saltpond, letting it resound for new generations the world over.

I would like to share with you one of the many memories I hold of Ebo Taylor: a rare, suspended moment in time, during his first American tour, in August 2022, at the Lodge Room in Los Angeles. Owing to his advanced age, he would perform only part of the show, four or five songs, before

leaving the stage while the Saltpond City Band carried on.

I was alone backstage when I saw him step off the stage and walk into the room. Without quite noticing me, he began to sketch out a few dance steps, moving to the rhythm of the sounds drifting in from the nearby stage — held, it seemed, by a kind of quiet fullness. This was, I believe, the culmination of something far greater: the sense that his music would keep playing, again and again, for all time — and played, no less, by his own children, the very ones who had grown up with it.

What deep emotion, to see how completely this man remained, until the end, inhabited by his music — a simple, unguarded happiness that filled the whole room.

I wish to offer my warmest and deepest tribute to his wife, to his children and grandchildren, and to his entire family, as well as to all those — musicians, sound engineers, studios, labels, promoters, press agents, publishers, managers — who believed in him and in his music. May that singular voice, and those final dance steps, continue to guide the generations of artists and musicians yet to come...



Gyedu Blay Ambolley, Pat Thomas & Kofi Kinaata, Bessa Simons paid tribute to Ebo Taylor



Tribute From

THE MUSICIANS UNION OF GHANA

IN HONOR OF THE LATE

EBO DE ROY TAYLOR

The Musicians Union of Ghana (MUSIGA) pays loving tribute to the memory of the legendary Ebo Taylor, a true giant of Ghanaian music and one of the most enduring creative forces in African popular music. His passing leaves a silence that is deeply felt, yet his legacy continues to resound in the hearts of all who cherish highlife, afrobeat, and the proud musical heritage of Ghana.

Ebo Taylor was a pioneer whose work helped define the modern evolution of Ghanaian music. Through his groundbreaking artistry, he bridged highlife, afrobeat, and the contemporary sounds that followed, creating a body of work that remains timeless and influential.

He left an indelible mark through his work with great highlife ensembles, including the Stargazers, the Broadway Dance Band, Ghana Black Star Band, Uhuru, and the Uhuru-Yenzu/Uhuru-Yenza collaborations, where his distinctive guitar lines, rich horn arrangements, and adventurous compositions expanded the genre's possibilities.

His special relationship with Fela Kuti remains one of the great creative fraternities in African music. The two studied in London together in 1962, shared musical ideas, and helped shape the spirit and direction of the sound that

would become afrobeat.

Ebo Taylor's influence did not end with his generation; it travelled across decades and continents. His music has been sampled by global stars, including Usher and the Black Eyed Peas, affirming his status as a cultural giant whose creativity continues to inspire contemporary music.

As the African writer Chinua Achebe reminds us, "A man who calls his kinsmen to a feast does not do so to save them from starving. He calls them because his people are his own." That spirit of belonging, memory, and continuity lives on in the life and music of Ebo Taylor.

And in the words of Scripture:

"O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?... But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

1 Corinthians 15:55, 57 (KJV)

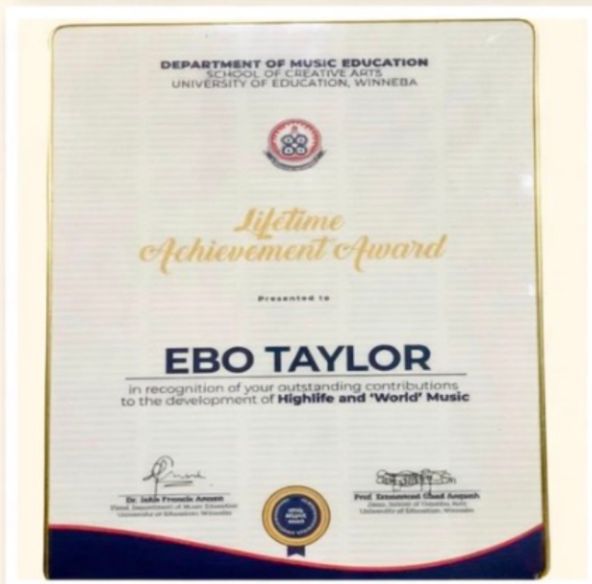
MUSIGA salutes Ebo Taylor for a life magnificently lived in service of music, nation, and humanity. May his immortal melodies continue to lead us, comfort us, and remind us that great artistry never dies.

Nante yie, damirifa due Uncle Ebo.
Together in Rhythm.

EBO TAYLOR'S AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS



EBO TAYLOR'S AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS



Tribute *From*

WESLEY METHODIST CHURCH, SALTPOND IN HONOR OF THE LATE BRO. EBO DE ROY TAYLOR

"For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life... nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Romans 8:38-39

The Wesley Methodist Church, Saltpond, pays heartfelt tribute to our dearly beloved brother, John Ebo Deroy "Ebo" Taylor, whose life reflected humility, faith, service, and love for God.

Bro. Ebo Taylor joined the Wesley Methodist Church in 2014, transferring from the Catholic Church. Having already been baptized and confirmed, he became an active and devoted member of our congregation. Although he joined the church at an advanced age and was unable to participate in many of the church organizations, he faithfully worshipped with the Monday Class alongside his beloved wife, Mrs. Elina Abokumah Taylor, who ensured that he remained in good standing with the church.

Bro. Ebo had a deep love for Methodist hymns and was a regular worshipper whose presence brought warmth and inspiration to our fellowship. His humility, kindness, generosity, and approachable nature endeared him to both young and old, making him a cherished member of our church family.

Long before joining Wesley Methodist Church, Bro. Ebo had

already demonstrated his passion for Christian music. He founded the Wesley Bakers Choir, a singing group that recorded several gospel songs, including the well-known "Asodzi Da Mo Do." His musical ministry touched many lives and contributed meaningfully to the growth of Christian worship through music.

Among the early members of the choir were the late Mr. Essifie and Mr. Atombea, both of blessed memory, as well as Bro. Kwesi Ennin, who continues to cherish those wonderful memories.

Today, we mourn the passing of a faithful brother, a gifted musician, and a man whose life was a blessing to all who knew him. Though we shall greatly miss Bro. J. E. D. Taylor, we are comforted by the assurance that his good works will continue to speak for generations to come.

May the Lord grant him eternal rest, and may his soul find everlasting peace in the presence of his Maker.

Farewell, Bro. John Ebo Deroy "Ebo" Taylor.

Your music, your faith, your kindness, and your legacy will forever remain in our hearts.

Rest in perfect peace.

Amen.

In Memory of **Uncle Ebo Taylor**

Jazz Is Dead pays tribute to Ebo Taylor, a true architect of Afrobeat and highlife whose rhythm, compositions and arrangements reshaped music across genres, generations and continents. Beyond the collaborations, he was our friend, and that friendship is something we will hold close forever. His guitar spoke a language of joy, resistance, and soul, and his influence will echo through every groove that follows.

"It was an honor to spend time with the legend Ebo. His spirit and energy is something I will always cherish. I'm thankful for everything he has given to the world and I will celebrate his life forever." - Adrian Younge

Rest well, Maestro. Your music lives on.
— Jazz Is Dead Crew



Tribute from **STRUT RECORDS -** *Quinton Scott*

I loved Ebo's gentleness. Many music legends are larger than life-I remember Ebo as soulful, cheeky, warm and softly spoken and I always respected that he didn't feel the need to shout too loudly. He was also the musician's musician.

Greats like Fela and Victor Uwaifo recognised his talent at an early stage, knowing that he was creating something significant, different and powerful.

His arrangements, his feel for melody, jazz and soul and his skill in knitting it all together with deep highlife led to some of the best music of the 1970s anywhere in West Africa, songs that are now rightfully recognised as all-time classics across the globe.

I am truly happy that, due to the work of many people over the last 20 years in particular, Ebo's legacy is undeniable and will live on strongly through future generations; I will always personally feel honoured to have witnessed his genius up close and to have worked with him on some of his great modern recordings with the Afrobeat Academy band during the 2010s.

Precious times indeed. Rest in peace, Uncle Ebo and sending my love and very best wishes to all of his family and his many friends.

MHB 602

FATHER, I know that all my life
Is portioned out for me,
And the changes that are sure to come
I do not fear to see;
But I ask thee for a present mind,
Intent on pleasing thee.

2. I ask thee for a thoughtful love,
Through constant watching wise,
To meet the glad with joyful smiles,
And wipe the weeping eyes;
And a heart at leisure from itself,
To soothe and sympathize.

3. I would not have the restless will
That hurries to and fro,
Seeking for some great thing to do
Or secret thing to know;
I would be treated as a child,
And guided where I go.

4. Wherever in the world I am,
In whatsoever estate,
I have a fellowship with hearts
To keep and cultivate;
And a work of lowly love to do
For the Lord on whom I wait.

5. I ask Thee for the daily strength
To none that ask denied
And a mind to blend with outward life
Still keeping at Thy side,
Content to fill a little space
If Thou be glorified.

6. In a service which thy will appoints
There are no bonds for me;
For my inmost soul is taught the truth
That makes thy children free;
And a life of self-renouncing love
Is a life of liberty.

MHB 608

Captain of Israel's host and guide,
Of all who seek the land above,
Beneath Thy shadow we abide,
The cloud of Thy protecting love;
Our strength, Thy grace; our rule,
Thy word our end the glory of the Lord

2. By Thine unerring spirit led,
We shall not in the desert stray,
We shall not full direction need,

Nor miss our providential way;
As far from danger as from fear,
While love almighty love is near.

MHB 615

Guide me, o Thou great Jehovah,
Pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak but Thou art mighty;
Hold me with Thy powerful hand:
Bread of heaven!
Feed me now and evermore.

2. Open Thou the crystal fountain,
Whence the healing stream shall flow;
Let the fiery cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through:
Strong deliverer!
Be Thou still my help and shield.

3. When I thread the verge of Jordan;
Bid my anxious fears subside,
Death of deaths, and hell's destruction,
Land me safe on Canaan side;
Songs of Praises!
I will ever give to Thee

CAN 324

Da yie, dɔfɔ fonafo,
W'edwuma abɔ adeɛ;
Ahomgye pa, siar mbordo
Na dew mpa nye wodɛɛ.
Da yi, da yie, Nyame mfa w' nsie
Adeesaa ahyɛ sum, da yie!

2. Nyinsu bɔnsam' kwantunyi
Hom fi yaw na suro nsa,
Hom mbre su na mbusu nnyi,
W'akwantu ber no asa.
Da yi, da yie, Nyame mfa w' nsie
Adeesaa ahyɛ sum, da yie

3. Twer Jesus N'abaw mu komm, Nyame dɔ
nkata wo do;
Sun W'Agyenkwa No bom sɔnn,
Mbre bɔn biara nnkehaw wo.
Da yi, da yie, Nyame mfa w' nsie
Yebehiamɛ afɛɔɔ, da yie!

4. Kwantunyi berefo dɔfo,
W'akwantu abɔ adeɛ;
Atsew esian nyina mu
Efi awerɛhow wiadɛɛ.
Dei fie kan kɔtweɛn hɛn, da yie!

Hymns

MHB 528

In heavenly love abiding,
No change my heart shall fear.
And safe in such confiding,
For nothing changes here.
The storm may roar without me,
My heart may low be laid,
But God is round about me,
And can I be dismayed?

2. Wherever He may guide me,
no want shall turn me back.
My Shepherd is beside me,
and nothing can I lack.
His wisdom ever waking,
His sight is never dim.
He knows the way He's taking,
and I will walk with Him

3. Green pastures are before me,
Which yet I have not seen.
Bright skies will soon be over me,
Where darkest clouds have been.
My hope I cannot measure,
My path to life is free.
My Savior has my treasure,
And He will walk with me.

MHB 50

THE Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want,
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green; he leadeth me
The quiet waters by.

2. My soul he doth restore again,
And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness,
Even for his own name sake.

3. Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
Yet will I fear no ill:
For thou art with me, and thy rod
And staff me comfort still.

4. My table thou hast furnished
In presence of my foes;
My head thou dost with oil anoint,
And my cup overflows.

5. Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me,
And in God's house for evermore
My dwelling place shall be.

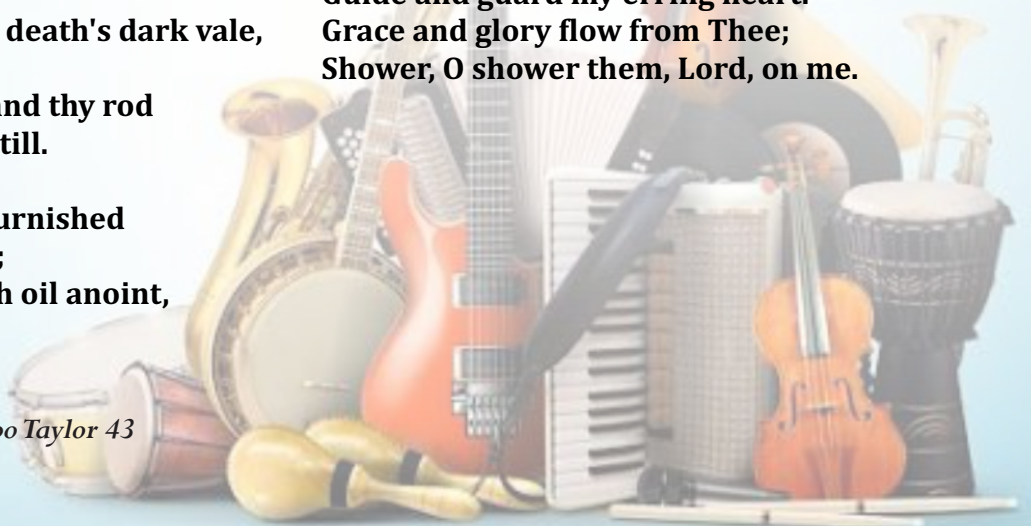
MHB679

Pleasant are Thy courts above,
In the land of light and love;
Pleasant are Thy courts below
In this land of sin and woe;
O, my spirit longs and faints
For the converse of Thy saints,
For the brightness of Thy face,
For Thy fullness, God of grace.

2. Happy birds that sing and fly
Round Thy altars, O most High;
Happier souls that find a rest
In a heavenly Father's breast;
Like the wandering dove that found
No repose on earth around,
They can to their ark repair,
And enjoy it ever there.

3. Happy souls! Their praises flow
In this vale of sin and woe;
Waters in the desert rise,
Manna feeds them from the skies.
On they go from strength to strength
Till they reach Thy throne at length,
At Thy feet adoring fall,
Shower O shower them Lord on me.

4. Lord, be mine this prize to win,
Guide me through a world of sin,
Keep me by Thy saving grace,
Give me at Thy side a place;
Sun and shield alike Thou art,
Guide and guard my erring heart.
Grace and glory flow from Thee;
Shower, O shower them, Lord, on me.



NOTES



APPRECIATION

The entire families wish to express our sincere gratitude
and appreciation for your countless efforts
in kind, money and prayers for a successful final funeral rites
of our beloved

LEGENDARY EBO TAYLOR

We pray the immeasurable blessings of God on your kindness,
and may whatever spent in honour of Ebo Taylor
be restored to you in manifold.

Thank you indeed.

Amen