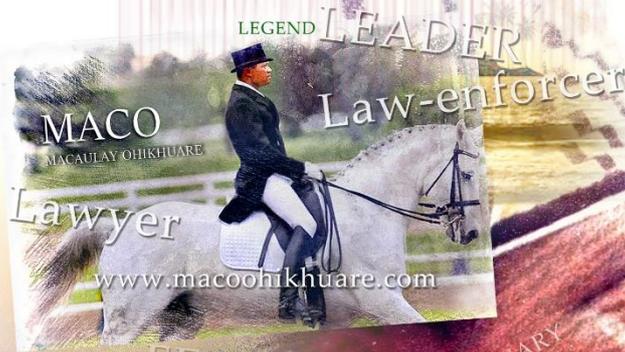


MaCo

Macaulay Ohikhuare



#macothefearless



MACO'S JOURNEY

BIRTH

Barrister (Chief) Macaulay MACO Ojeata Ohikhuare (ACP rtd) 'THE AIGBOKHAEVBORO' of Iuleha clan was born on the 16th of March, 1945 into the family of Pa Gabriel Aigbomobe Ohikhuare of Ule-Eromon Quarters, Ivbiodohen - Okpuje, Owan West L.G.A of the Western Region (previously Mid-Western Region (1963) / Bendel State (1976) now Edo State(1991), Nigeria.

He was the fourth of eight siblings, birthed by Madam Omohiehe Ohikhuare (nee Atose).



EARLY CHILDHOOD

As a child, he stood out because of his good looks, and held a special place in the heart of his father. He was adventurous, athletic and very intelligent.

EARLY EDUCATION

MACO started his early education at St. Philips Anglican Primary School, Ivbiodohen, before proceeding to attend Uzebba Model School, Iuleha where he obtained a Modern 3 certificate. He completed this phase of his education in 1961; one year after Nigeria's independence.



EARLY PROFESSION

In 1962, at just 17 years of age, MACO was employed by the local government authority as a teacher, and resumed at Ago-Ogbodo Primary School, Otuo. At about the same time, the education board started laying off teachers who had only Modern 3 qualification. This prompted MACO to pursue, and attain the requirements of the times.

He maintained that appointment till the latter part of 1963 when he attained full adulthood, and decided to pursue a profession that would task both his intellect, and physical dexterity.

EARLY POLICE CAREER

Determined to become the best he could, an 18-year-old MACO started eyeing the force. He left his comfort zone, and traveled to Ibadan where he found shelter in the home of the late Chief Timothy Omobare (DIG Rtd).

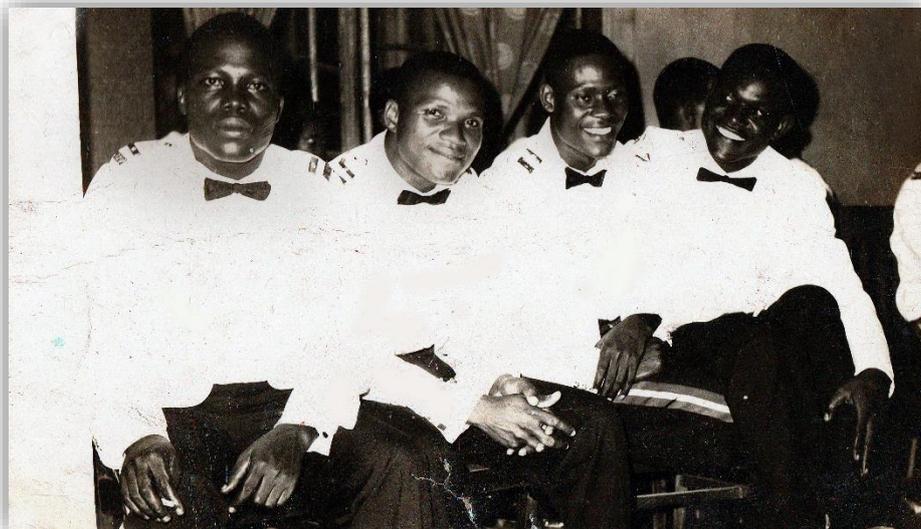
MACO was never known for abusing time so, he put his time to good use by extending the benefits of his teaching background to the children of the Omobare's.

After due consideration, and arguably with the support of Chief Omobare, MACO landed at the Nigeria Police Training College, Ibadan in 1963 - the same year the Mid-Western region was created from the Benin and Delta provinces.

His training in the police force officially kicked off on the 1st of October, 1963. He progressed swiftly to the Southern Police College, Ikeja - Lagos for an intense, in-depth training, and passed out from the Police College in April, 1964 as a recruit constable.

Later that same year (1964), MACO was posted to the Mid-Western State Police Command in Benin City, and once again, to the Sapele Police Command.

He was eventually transferred back to the Mid-Western State Police Command in Benin City, where he was promoted to the rank of Corporal in 1967. He served in the Mid-Western State Police Command in Benin from 1967 to the latter part of 1971 / early 1972.



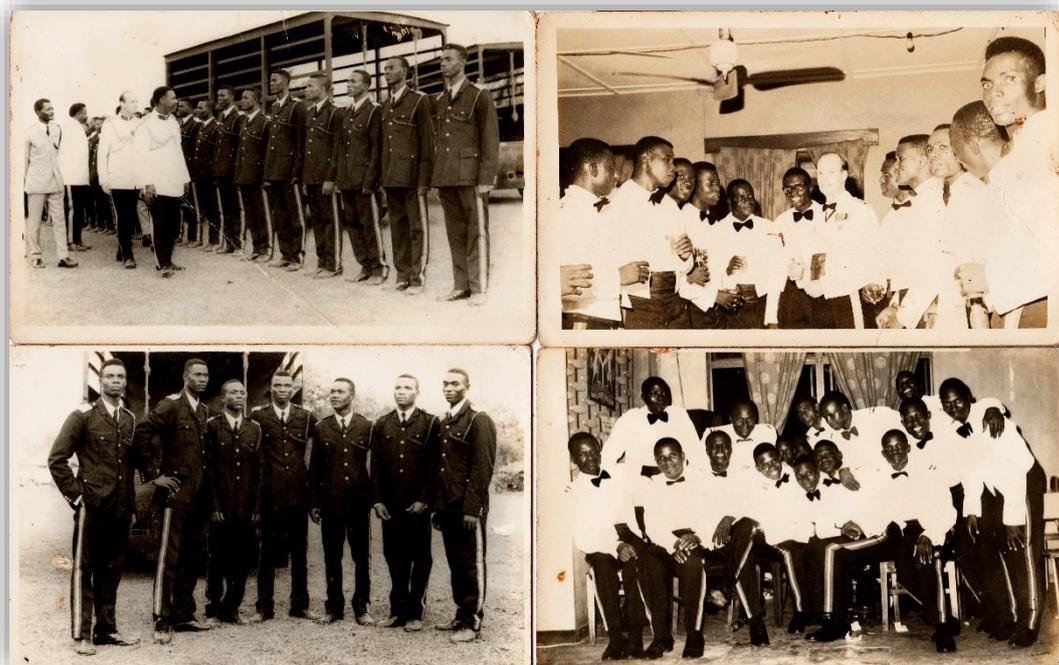
A CAREER BOOST

Determined to prove himself against the limitations imposed on serving officers of the Nigeria Police Force by the despicable 'Quota System'; which allowed for rapid acceleration of officers from the north over their colleagues from the south / west, MACO took out time from his exhausting duties as a policeman to study for the CGE Ordinary Level (O-Level), which he smashed in one sitting, before advancing to conquer the Advanced Level (A-Level), which was only open to qualified students who had completed the O-Level.

With this achievement, MACO was considered to have completed his formal education, and was eligible to pursue whatever feat he dreamed of in his chosen profession.

Little wonder therefore, when as a corporal in 1972, MACO attended the Cadet Inspectorate Course which was often reserved for fresh secondary school leavers that were shortlisted for enlistment as eventual 'Inspectors of police' upon a successful completion of their course.

True to his fierce determination, MACO completed the course successfully, and was promoted to the rank of Inspector in the year 1972.



GREAT EXPECTATIONS

Following his promotion, MACO was transferred to the Force CID, Alagbon - Lagos where he became an instant celebrity for his outstanding representation of the Nigeria Police Force, as a Prosecutor at the Igbosere Magistrate Court. He continued to distinguish himself throughout his engagement in this office. However, his resentment of the fact that criminals were often let loose by superior arguments presented by trained and qualified lawyers whom they often got to represent them, sowed a deep-seated seed within MACO. He later swore to himself that 'he would not enter heaven

after death, if he didn't earn a degree in law, and get called to bar'. He registered with the University of London to pursue a degree in Law, but his hectic schedule occasioned by frequent assignments and transfers prevented him from attaining that feat in those years.

MACO's hard work and dedication paid off when in 1977, he was promoted to the rank of ASP (Assistant Superintendent of Police - 1 star). That promotion was subsequently followed by a confirmation in 1978.

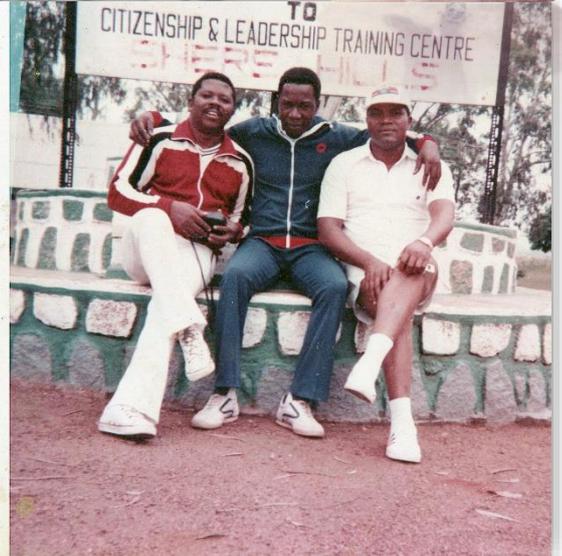


THROUGH THE FIRE

In 1981, MACO was promoted to the rank of DSP (Deputy Superintendent of Police) and assigned to head an investigative assignment in Abuja. That assignment presented one of the most dangerous periods in his career, occasioned by several attempts made at getting rid of him. His assailants were arguably a mixed blend of total strangers and familiar foes.

As God would have it, he survived through it all, and delivered on his assignment which spanned three years; between 1981 and 1983. He was eventually rewarded for his meritorious service, with another promotion to the rank of SP (Superintendent of Police) in 1984.

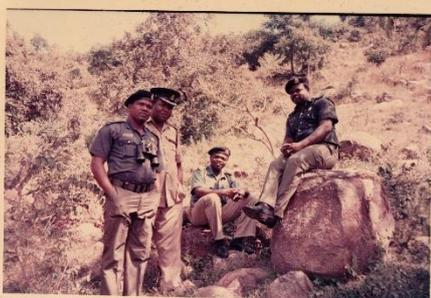
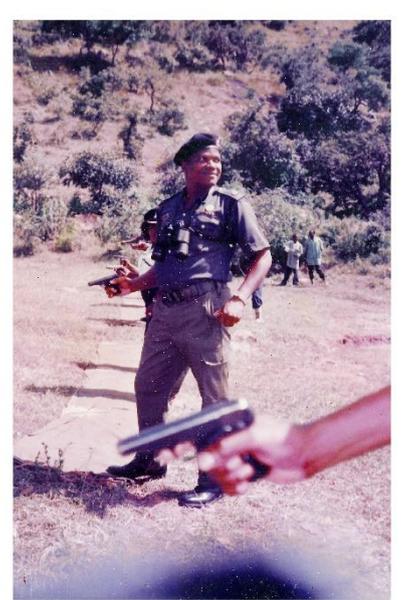
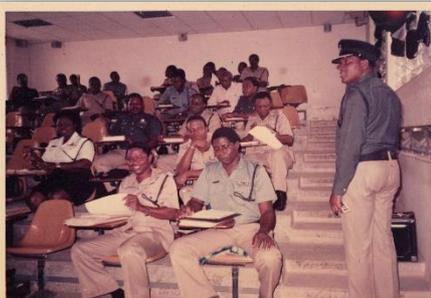
Following his 1984 promotion, MACO was redeployed to Southern Nigeria - Anambra State to be precise. Upon resumption in Anambra, he commenced his duties at the Anti-Fraud Section of the State CID in the coal city, Enugu.

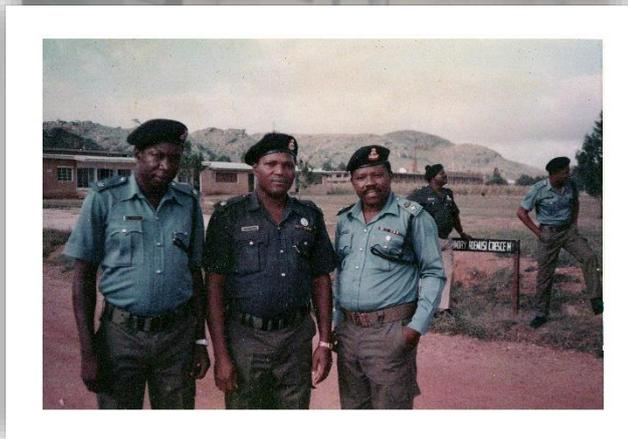
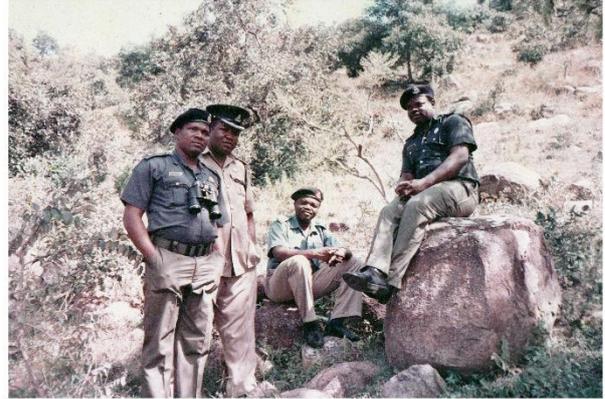
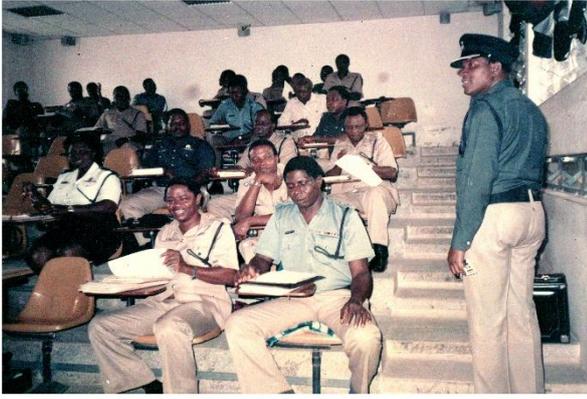


LEGENDARY YEARS

In 1987, MACO attended the Senior Officers' Course 'B' in Jaji - Plateau State, where he excelled in everything. He was notably a spectacle to behold at the shooting range.

Upon his return from the Advanced Detective College in Jos, MACO was transferred to Otuocha as the DPO (Divisional Police Officer) in 1988.





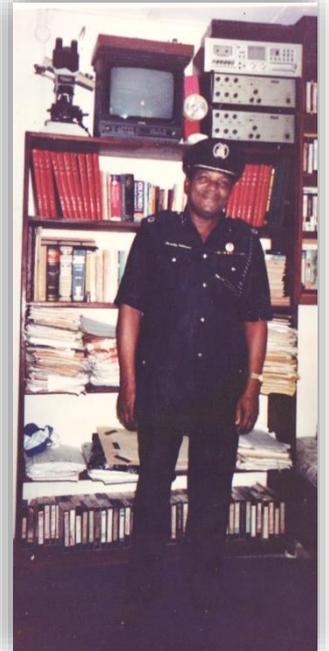
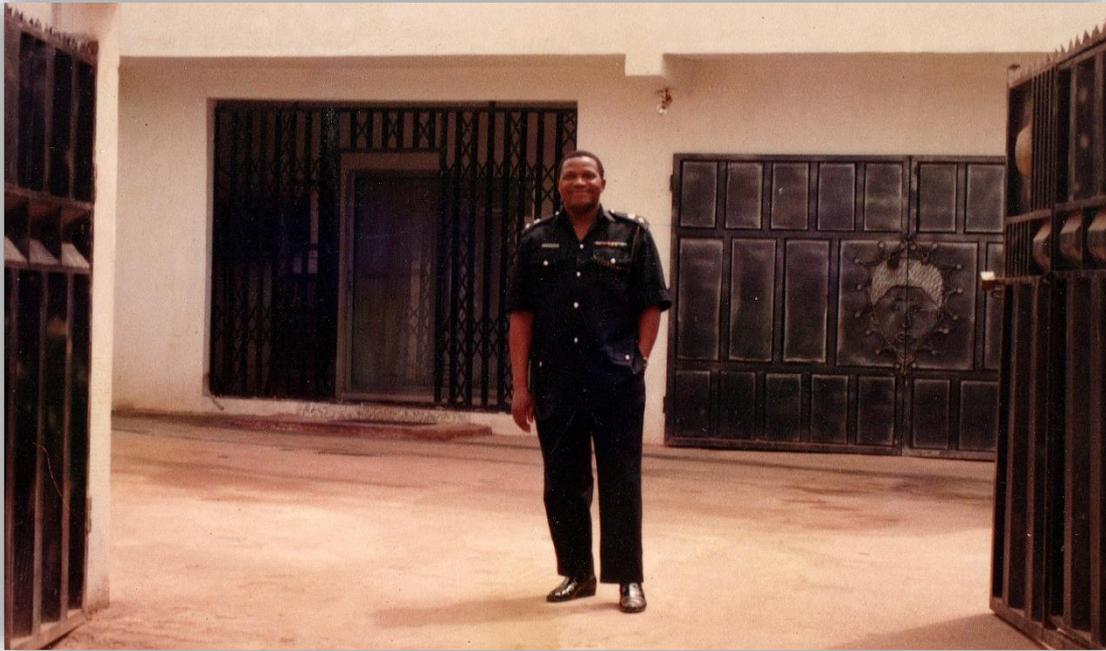
FEARLESS & UNDAUNTED

In 1989, MACO was transferred yet again to resume as the DPO (Divisional Police Officer) of the CPS (Central Police Station) - Onitsha, at a time when the unsavory reputation of Onitsha was particularly infamous, owing to both organized and petty crimes that characterized the day-to-day life of those living in the commercial city. MACO was promoted to the rank of CSP (Chief Superintendent of Police) with his redeployment to Onitsha, where he served diligently between 1989 and 1991.



MACO is famed by the people of Onitsha, and his colleagues in the Police Force alike, for 'taming' the wild city of Onitsha during his time there as DPO.

With his exploits in Onitsha trailing him, MACO was briefly transferred to Awka in 1992, before another quick redeployed to the Edo State Police command in Benin City.



While serving in Benin, MACO obliged dutifully, and made further impact. He worked at ZONE 5, and then the State Headquarters. It was while serving in Benin that he was promoted to the rank of ACP in 1998. He was then appointed as the Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP) in charge of the State Criminal Investigation and Intelligence Bureau, (SIIB) in Benin City, Edo State. In Benin, he also served as ACP Admin.



SIGNING OUT OF THE NPF

MACO's last office in the Nigeria Police Force was ACP - DLS in the Edo State Police Command, Benin City, where he worked dutifully till his eventual official retirement from the Nigeria Police Force in 1998 - after 35 meritorious years of selfless service to his fatherland.



RETROSPECT

Shortly before his retirement, MACO enrolled into the Law programme of the University of Benin, and graduated with honors, bagging an LLB Law. He then attended the Nigeria Law School in Abuja, and was eventually called to Bar thus, accomplishing a life-long goal he had set for himself as far back as 1972, when as a young inspector, he served as a prosecutor at the Igbosere Magistrate Court, while in active service.



VOICE FOR THE MASSES

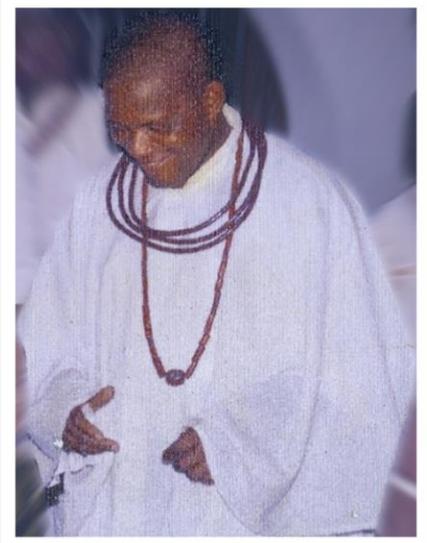
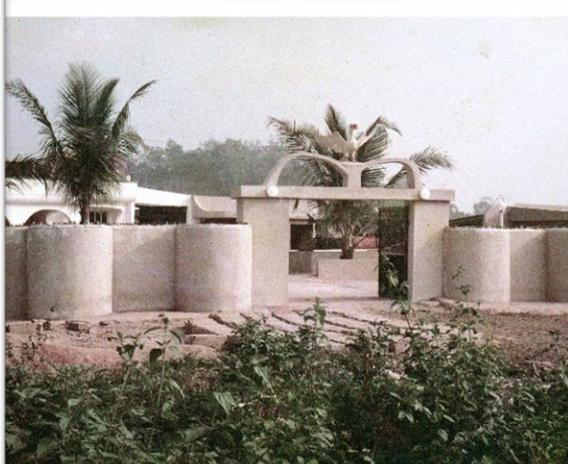
Now a bonafide Lawyer, MACO established his Law Firm; MACAULAY MACO OHIKHUARE & co. (Barristers & Solicitors) under which umbrella he served thousands of people with honor and dignity in numerous capacities as Fraud Investigator, Property Consultant, Asset and Debt Recovery Consultant, and more.

He prosecuted corrupt police officers, and vindicated those who were falsely accused by powers that be. In all of this, MACO never forgot his roots, and was actively involved in developmental projects relating to the Iuleha Clan. He also spared time to assist and represent his fellow clans-men (mostly without financial compensation), whose sincerity and innocence he could vouch for.



As a retired Police officer with years of investigative experience, MACO would do his due diligence to get the facts and details right before representing anyone. He never wanted to be identified as the one who vindicated a criminal.

For his selfless service, and contribution to the overall development of the Iuleha Clan, MACO was conferred a Chieftaincy title by the late Okumagbe II of Iuleha. The title was "THE AIGBOKHAEVBORO OF IULEHA".





MULTI-DISCIPLINARY MACO

Anyone who has met MACO's children can attest to how gifted and multi-talented they all are. These attributes can be traced to MACO.

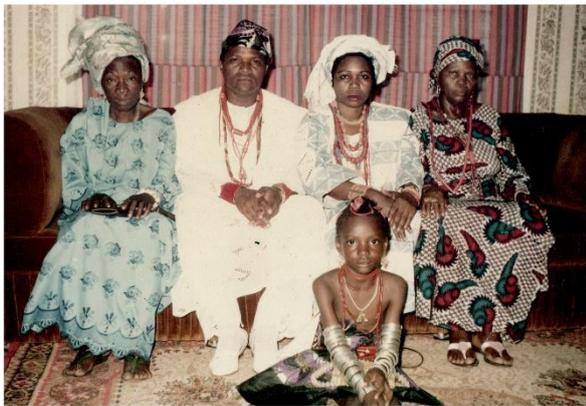
MACO was an Artist, a WRITER / PUBLISHER, a MUSIC COMPOSER, a MUSIC PRODUCER, a FILM & DOCUMENTARY ENTHUSIAST, a PHOTOGRAPHER, a SINGER, an ASTUTE ORATOR, an ATHLETE, a NEGOTIATOR, and one of the finest MARKSMEN of the Nigeria Police Force. Lest we forget, he was also a strict disciplinarian.

He preached and promoted unity among the Luleha Clan, and was a member of the great 'Elabomai' Age group of Luleha. It was MACO who brought the first set of Luleha musicians to the limelight through his record label promotions as far back as the 1980's.

The likes of 'Natoso' and his Osaije Dance Band, 'Solo Hits' and his Ododo Sounds and 'Sunday Omoaregba' would readily attest to his benevolence.

MACO also conceived 'ATOSE RECORDS', named after his mother's maiden heritage.





A CHAPTER CLOSES

On the 27th day of December 2019, MACO "the fearless" marched boldly into eternity, unwilling to be a burden to his children with his failing health. He had his children around him at death. MACO was an enigma! Throughout his lifetime, he was never seen scared. He constantly bragged about how unafraid he was of death.

As long as his Legacy keeps shining forth, the brave warrior, son of battle, intrepid officer of the Nigeria Police Force, unbiased law-enforcer, pride of Iuleha, son of Ivbiodohen-Okpuje, seed of Gabriel Aigbomobe Ohikhuare, husband, and strict disciplinarian father of 12 remarkable children, will never be forgotten.

Adieu MACO! ...Omohe n'okhua! Adieu Alagbon! Adieu Ovbi Ohikhuare! Adieu Iroko!



Adieu Poloo! *Your children will cherish your memory forever.*





OUR FATHER'S NAMES

We spent several weeks trying to determine how our father's names might have influenced his personality, decisions, perceptions and overall being. After all, it is commonly said that names play a significant role in the outcome of an individual's life - especially in our African continent. The following findings were made sequel to the completion of our research.

1. MACO

Meaning of the name MACO: The name, MACO in our native Edo dialect (Efenma) means "We are complete" or "We are accounted for". The expression 'MA' is interchangeably used for the expressions 'US' or 'WE' or 'OUR', while 'KO' means 'COMPLETENESS' or 'COMPLETE' or 'ACCOUNTED FOR'.

Origins: Ivbiodohen - Okpuje (Iuleha Clan) of Edo State, Nigeria.

Inspiration: According to our father, he coined the name himself for reasons best known to him, and the name has remained 'exclusive to our father' till this day. We guess his reason must have been very personal, because he never told anyone. It is pertinent to note that the subjective direction of what to be addressed as, was inherited from his father; my grandfather, who favored his first name 'Ohikhuare' over his ancestral surname 'Aigbomobe' hence, the surname we all bear today 'Ohikhuare'.

Opinions: Many people have insinuated that the name 'MACO' was derived from a combination of his first name 'Macaulay' and his surname 'Ohikhuare', but our father told us otherwise. Secondly, though the real local spelling of this name is MAKO, our father in his usual uniqueness chose to spell his unique name as 'MACO'.

His Children likened his name to MARCO-POLO and creatively coined a secret code-name for him, by which they covertly referred to him whenever they spoke of him at home – even in his presence. They simply called him "POLOOOO". They would eventually reveal this nickname to him in a very casual manner, after over 25 years! Well, being a sound detective, he already suspected he was the one they spoke of whenever the name 'Polooo' was mentioned in hush tones over the preceding years. It was a rare family moment!

2. OHIKHUARE

Meaning of the name OHIKHUARE: The name, OHIKHUARE in our native Edo dialect (Efenma) means "God has lifted up". 'OHI' means God, while 'KHUA-RE' means raised high, or 'lifted up'

Origins: Ivbiodohen - Okpuje (Iuleha Clan) of Edo State, Nigeria.

Inspiration: This was my grandfather's first name, but for some reason, he preferred for his children to bear this name, rather than his father's name - 'AIGBOMOBE' meaning "you don't kill a stubborn or unruly child".

3. OJEATA

Meaning of the name OJEATA: The name, OJEATA in our native Edo dialect (Efenma) means "A True King / Leader". 'OJE' means King, while 'ATA' means truth, or the audacity to be true.

Origins: Ivbiodohen - Okpuje (Iuleha Clan) of Edo State, Nigeria.

Inspiration: This was the native name given to him by his parents; our grandparents.

4. MACAULAY

Meaning of the name Macaulay: The name Macaulay means Son of The Battle Chief.

Origin: Scottish / Irish

Scottish (Dumbartonshire) and Irish (Westmeath): Anglicized form of Gaelic Mac Amhalghaidh 'son of Amhalghadh', a personal name with diversely narrated origins.

Further Research

MacAuley – origins in Ireland and Scotland. MacAuley is an ancient Gaelic surname that can have either Irish or Scottish origins. The name is popular all over Ireland today, especially in Ulster, Connacht and Leinster. There are several variations including MacAulay, MacCauley, MacCawley and McCauley.

Irish Origins

There are a couple of different origins of the name. One is from the old Gaelic surname Mac Amhalghaidh which first emerged before the 9th century. The **'Mac' prefix means 'Son of'** and Amhalghaidh was a personal name.

The meaning of the name Amhalghaidh is unclear but history and research shows that the ancient Irish clans used to take their name from their chief or leader so the MacAuleys would have been ***'the descendants of a chief who held long grudges against his enemies'***.

Vikings from the Hebrides

Another theory is that Amhalghaidh meant 'spear warrior' so, ***'the chief of the clan would have been a fighting man who protected the tribe'***. The name became popular in Scotland and many Scots took the name to Ireland, particularly the north. Most of the MacAuleys in Ulster are descended from Scottish settlers.

The MacAulay Motto

The motto was originally a war cry or slogan. Mottoes first began to be shown with arms in the 14th and 15th centuries, but were not in general use until the 17th century. Thus, the oldest coats of arms generally do not include a motto. Mottoes seldom form part of the grant of arms: Under most heraldic authorities, a motto is an optional component of the coat of arms, and can be added to or changed at will; many families have chosen not to display a motto.

Motto: Dulce Periculum

Motto Translation: Danger is sweet.

RESEARCH LINKS:

SOURCE 1: <https://www.babynames.com/name/macaulay> **SOURCE 2:** <https://ireland-calling.com/irish-names-macauley/>

SOURCE: <https://www.houseofnames.com/macaulay-family-crest> Citations ^ Filby, P. William, Meyer, Mary K., Passenger and immigration lists index : a guide to published arrival records of about 500,000 passengers who came to the United States and Canada in the seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth centuries. 1982-1985 Cumulated Supplements in Four Volumes Detroit, Mich. : Gale Research Co., 1985, Print (ISBN 0-8103-1795-8) ^ Rubincam, Milton. The Old United Empire Loyalists List. Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc, 1976. (Originally published as; United Empire Loyalists. The Centennial of the Settlement of Upper Canada. Rose Publishing Company, 1885.) ISBN 0-8063-0331-X

Our verdict is that our father lived out all the connotations of his given names. He was 'COMPLETE', he was irrefutably ELEVATED BY GOD, he was A TRUE LEADER, and a PARTICULARLY FEARLESS WARRIOR who mocked danger!

His name remains **Barrister (Chief) Macaulay MACO Ohikhuare (ACP rtd.)**

March 16, 1945 – December 27, 2019

#macothefearless #macoforever

#poloooo

www.macoohikhuare.com

