

Delayed by police, asthmatic patient collapses, dies on road



Published 10 hours ago on July 27, 2018

By **Stanley Ihedigbo**

An asthmatic patient, Mr. Theophilus Olurotimi Shofu, has died after some policemen abandoned him on the road. The deceased was alleged to have died after some policemen on ACME Road, Ogba, Lagos State stopped him on July 11. It was further alleged that the victim repeatedly begged the police to allow him to go, because he was heading to the hospital, but they refused. Shofu (63) was said to have had a crisis and collapsed at the feet of the policemen. Rather than rush him to hospital, the policemen bolted, leaving him on the road, struggling to breathe and live. The policemen were alleged to have flagged down Shofu for breaking traffic law.

Incidentally, Shofu was buried yesterday at Ikoyi Cemetery, Lagos. His grieving widow, Lara Shofu, wept profusely at the commendation service at the Redeemed Christian Church of God (RCCG), Victory Chapel, Magodo, Lagos, for her husband's burial. "I wish my husband could come back to life right now, walk through the door with a smile on his face and a bounce to his step," Lara cried.

"It is meant to be. I would have loved more time to grow old with you, but I believe God has a reason for taking you the way he did, when he did. I will forever cherish each day I got to spend with you, and live each day with the knowledge that you are in a better place," she added. Shofu's younger brother, Femi Femi- Shofu, said his elder brother's death was shocking to the whole family members. He said: "My brother's death was not expected to happen. We have to live with it.

Like now, we are burying him and after that, we take life as it is.

The post-mortem and autopsy have been done. He was asthmatic and he had attack while driving, and before he could be taken to the hospital, he died. "We will miss his gentleness and meekness. He was a fine man and a gentle soul. He was quiet to a fault and he served. He was in the medical line and there are so many people he had saved medically.

That's why a lot of people are going to miss him. We will continue to console one and another now that my brother has gone to rest." Governor Rotimi Akeredolu of Ondo State said: "We are profoundly grateful to God and proud of this worthy son of Nigeria. We are proud because he lived a life worthy of emulation."

The governor, who was represented by a senior lecturer, Yaba College of Education, Lagos, Dr. Gboyega Ogunojemite, said that Nigeria lost a great son who used his career as medical expert to touch lives. The Lagos State Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), CSP Chike Oti, said that the Command Headquarters had not received any information related to such an issue. He added that if such an issue was reported to the nearest police station, it would have reached the command by now."