

IN MEMORIAM

Greg Cherry

Donald Rothchild

Victor C. Uchendu

DONALD ROTHCHILD

We received word today that Professor Donald Rothchild died yesterday. Our condolences to the Rothchild family and to our colleagues at the U of California, Davis. Professor Rothchild was a friend and colleague to many in African Studies and a dedicated Africanist scholar. He will be missed.

Donald Rothchild was a professor of Political Science at the U of California, Davis. He earned his PhD from Johns Hopkins U in 1958, his MA from the U of California, Berkeley in 1954, and his BA from Kenyon College in 1949 (High Honors in Po-

litical Science). He taught at UC Davis, Makerere U, UCLA, U of Nairobi, U of Zambia, U of Ghana, and Johns Hopkins U. He was the recipient of numerous grants and awards and was widely published. His most recent works include co-editing *Africa in World Politics: The African State System in Flux* (with John W. Harbeson) and *Africa-US Relations: Strategic Encounters* (with Edmond Keller).

Submitted by the James S. Coleman African Studies Center, January 31, 2007

VICTOR C. UCHENDU

The Center for African Studies at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign is very saddened to share the news that Prof. Victor C. Uchendu, founding director of our unit has passed away on December 7, 2006. He was buried in Nsirimo, Nigeria on December 22, 2006.

It is particularly troubling because we understand from his family that he was killed in his home at Umuahia, Abia State, Nigeria, and that individuals were hired to kill him to stop him from becoming the mayor of his community. According to the Nigerian newspaper, *Vanguard*, this violent crime has not been fully or satisfactorily solved. We are still seeking more information on this case.

Prof. Uchendu was the director of the Center for African Studies, U of Illinois from 1971-1980. He led a very distinguished career, as you can see from the following biography published by his family.

We extend our condolences and deepest sympathy to his family and friends during this difficult time.

From the faculty and staff of the Center for African Studies, U of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

FAMILY ORATION ON HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS, EZE (PROF.) VICTOR CHIKEZIE UCHENDU; FATHER, GRANDFATHER, BROTHER, UNCLE

Jan. 1 st 1930 - Dec. 7th 2006

Our father (Prof. Victor Chikezie Uchendu) was the first child of the late Ezeji Isaac Uchendu Aburonye, of Umuerim Nsirimo, and the late Enyidiya Sabanna Nwampagha Uchendu of Ezu na Erim Autonomous Community Umuahia South Local Government.

He was definitely in his mother's womb during the Abia Women's Riot in 1929; hence his mother, a woman activist, could not participate in the Women's Rally taking place in Aba. The exact day and month of his birth could only be placed in late 1929 or early 1930.

Education: Our father started school in 1938 at the Infant School and attended a variety of Catholic schools including: St. Joseph's Catholic School in Nsirimo, St. Jude's Amapu Ntigha and St. Anthony's Nbawsi.

In our father's primary school days, he told us that he made blunders in his best subject (mathematics) during the Standard 6 final exams (1945). He finished the paper 40 minutes early, copied his answers and submitted his papers. Those who completed their papers 40 minutes later came and compared answers with their classmate (Chike Obi) and thought they had failed. Mr. V. Njoku, the headmaster at the time, solved the problems and showed that his "Agar Khan" grade class