



Mukanda Donald Mbualungu

JUN 19, 1965 - MAY 13, 2025



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Mukanda Donald Mbualungu

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Mukanda Donald Mbualungu was born on June 19, 1965, in Marion, Indiana, to Theodore Ganuma Mbualungu and Jeanne Themua Mukanda. He was the fourth child of the beautiful family, and from the very beginning, he brought joy and love to those around him. Sadly, in the early afternoon of Tuesday, May 13, 2025, in Leesburg, Virginia, Mukanda departed to heaven at the age of 59, leaving many of us with deep sorrow and heavy hearts.

Mukanda's early years were spent in the vibrant city of Kinshasa in the Democratic Republic of Congo, where he learned the importance of family, culture, and community. He obtained his high school diploma in Mathematics and Physics from Lycée Lisanga in 1984 and moved back to the United States in 1985 to pursue higher education. He first earned his associate's degree from Hesston College in Kansas and went on to obtain his bachelor's in computer science with a Minor in Mathematics from Eastern Mennonite College in Harrisonburg, Virginia, in 1991.

In a fateful twist of destiny, Mukanda met Brenda Joy Zook in the summer of 1989 in Harrisonburg, Virginia, and on August 1, 1992, they were married, beginning a partnership built on love, faith, and unwavering commitment before God, family, and friends. Right after their marriage, the couple started a life of togetherness in the city of Alexandria, Virginia, with the intent of helping Mukanda build a prosperous career in the technology industry around the Washington, D.C. metro area. Mukanda started his career as a software engineer, and in July of 1999, the Lord blessed Brenda and Mukanda by filling their hearts with joy as they welcomed their twin children, Mukanda Junior and Olivia, into the world. Later, in March of 2009, the family grew even larger as they welcomed Charro Ngongo, Mukanda's nephew, whom Brenda and Mukanda adopted as their legal son from Congo.



Obituary

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Mukanda was gifted with a variety of passions. He was a talented artist and had an innate love for storytelling. Congolese music was a daily regiment to him, and although he was not the greatest dancer, Mukanda did not shy away from feeling the rhythm wholly. For many years, he served faithfully at Grace Covenant Church, dedicating his time to help others. He also found peace and purpose in sports such as soccer, American football and basketball, and in the last few years of his life, he embraced fitness with a new vigor. But above all, Mukanda had a special gift for mentoring others, particularly young software engineers, guiding them with patience and wisdom.

Mukanda faced many battles in life—especially with his health—but he never complained. His resilience was inspiring, and through it all, he found joy in family, faith, and love. He was a man of rare character with a gentle soul, a heart full of generosity, and a strength that seemed unshakable. He welcomed strangers without hesitation, and every person who entered his home as a stranger left as a friend. His art, his connection to nature, and his quiet moments of reflection were his sanctuaries. His kindness was limitless, and his ability to solve the most challenging problems with grace and humility will be remembered forever.

In the spirit of honoring his parents and leading a life of discipleship, Mukanda leaves behind a legacy of love, kindness, strength, and resilience that will never be forgotten. He is survived by his devoted wife of 32 years, Brenda Joy Mbualungu; their son Mukanda Junior Mbualungu, their daughter Olivia Mbualungu-Oosthuizen (son-in-law Mateam Oosthuizen), their son Charro Ngongo (and daughter-in-law Monelle Ngongo); 14 nephews and nieces, and 3 precious grandchildren, along with 5 great-nieces and nephews. His siblings — Dr. Emmanuel Mbualungu, Martine Tulula Ndandula, Yvette Ngassa Ngongo, Tina Kafutshi Gasala, and Nadine Themua Kage — mourn his loss deeply, but they also carry his memory in their hearts.

Though his time with us was far too short, we are forever grateful for the years we shared with Mukanda. His spirit, his laughter, his wisdom, and his boundless love will continue to live in the hearts of all who knew him.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations to the [Sickle Cell Disease Foundation]<http://www.scdfc.org> a cause close to Mukanda's heart.



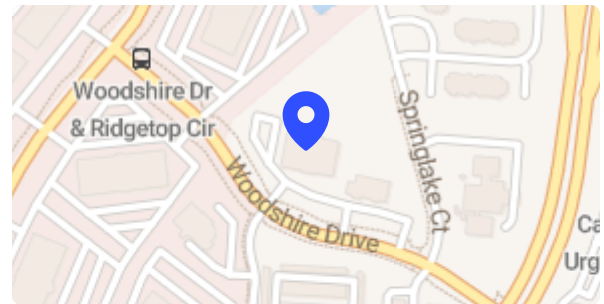
Events

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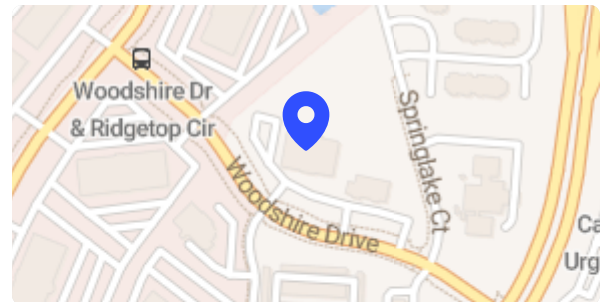
Visitation

- Friday**, May 23, 2025
- 3:00 PM - 9:00 PM ET
- Grace Covenant Church Sterling Campus**
46100 Woodshire Dr. , Sterling VA 20166



Funeral Service

- Saturday**, May 24, 2025
- 10:00 AM ET
- Grace Covenant Church Sterling Campus**
46100 Woodshire Dr. , Sterling VA 20166



Burial

- Saturday**, May 24, 2025
- 1:00 PM ET
- Sterling Cemetery**
45835 West Church Road, Sterling VA





Tribute Wall

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John Herrin lit a candle in honor of Mukanda.

Pleasure meeting you Mukanda, your smile can light up a room. May you rest in paradise forever. John Herrin

June 5 at 12:33 PM



Luta Tarrant posted:

With deepest sympathy on the loss of Ya Guy Mukanda Mbualungu. We have made a donation to the Sickle Cell Disease Foundation. May God continue to strengthen Mukanda's family- Luta Omeyaka Tarrant

May 23 at 7:46 PM



David Henry posted:

It has been an incredible honor to have met Mukanda. From the first day I worked with him I could tell he was a man with grace, dignity, honor, and patience. These things are incredibly rare these days. I shall miss him, but am so thankful for the time and the patience he showed me. Thank you.

May 23 at 5:06 PM



The Barnes Family sent a Serene Retreat to the Mbualungu family.

May 23 at 6:57 AM



Prosper Élie Alain posted:

Surely WE lost you, but your several good acts keep speaking loudly through human générations. May your soul rest in peace

May 22 at 6:07 PM



Charles, Edward, Jerry Mininger sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Mbualungu family.

May 22 at 4:28 PM





Tribute Wall

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Charles, Edward, Jerry Mininger planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Mukanda.



May 22 at 4:28 PM



Karen posted:

We are praying you will sense the nearness of the God of all comfort. We made a donation to the Sickle Cell Disease Foundation in Mukanda's memory. - Karen & David Montgomery

May 22 at 2:15 PM



Akim Kikonda posted:

Muk and Brenda welcomed me warmly in their house for the first time in year 2000. Whenever I visited, Muk always found time to drive me around. We spent hours sharing ideas and discussing opportunities. When my wife needed medical care in the US, Muk and Brenda hosted her, offered all the support she needed and made her feel at home. We are for ever grateful to the Lord who put Muk on our path and will remember him as a very humble and extremely generous man. Brenda, Junior and Olivia, you are in our prayers.

May 22 at 3:40 AM



Anonymous sent a Full Of Love Bouquet to the Mbualungu family.



May 21 at 9:39 AM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Mukanda.



May 21 at 9:39 AM



Lisanga 84 Graduates sent a Sentiments of Serenity Spray to the Mbualungu family.



May 20 at 6:08 PM



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Manuel Mawana posted:

Uncle Mukanda or as we would call him uncle Muk. Was and will always be one of the most humble, kindest human beings you will have ever met. He always had advice for me and always checked on me. As a kid he always came to the family functions and always had a smile on his face. I miss the times I used to pull up to his office in Arlington and we would have lunch and talk. And just reflect. Losing him is like words I can't explain. Every time we got off the phone or left meeting up. He always told me jackon I love u. Uncle Muk I love u and I will always keep you in my heart and mind. I know I can say this that everyone will agree with, you were truly and will forever be our Uncle Muk! Rest peacefully. I love u Unk

May 20 at 1:57 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Mukanda by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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