



In Loving Memory of

Dr. Adaora Alise Adimora

May 05, 1956 - January 01, 2024

Order of Service

Opening Prayer

Pastor Andy Thompson

Worship

WO Worship

Old Testament

Dr. Alice Coombs

Dr. Deborah Morris Harris

New Testament

Mrs. Paula Flood

Prayer of Comfort

Pastor Al Gee

Acknowledgements/Remarks

Dr. Myron Cohen

Drs. Judy Auerbach and Rochelle Walensky

Dr. Bria Adimora Godley

Worship

WO Worship

Eulogy

Pastor Andy Thompson

Dr. Adaora Alise Adimora

Dr. Adaora (Ada) Alise Adimora was an extraordinary woman, mother, wife, scholar, clinician, mentor, friend, and advocate. Ada served as the Sarah Graham Kenan Distinguished Professor of Medicine at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. A world-renowned physician epidemiologist, Ada dedicated her career to investigating and advocating for solutions to the pervasive racial and gender disparities heightened by the HIV epidemic. As a clinician, she provided unwavering and compassionate care to her patients. Ada departed this earth far too soon, on Monday, January 1, 2024, at age 67, surrounded by the love of her children and a wide circle of friends.

After receiving her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Cornell University, Ada earned her Medical Degree from Yale University. She went on to complete Residency at Boston City Hospital and an Infectious Disease Fellowship at Albert Einstein/Montefiore Medical Center in New York. She received a Masters in Public Health from the Gillings School of Global Public Health at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Ada's scholarship characterized the epidemiology of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections. She was a tireless advocate for women's health and a recognized leader in the field, serving as the Chair of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) HIV Prevention Trials Network Women at Risk Committee, leading the NIH-funded Multicenter AIDS Cohort/Women's Interagency HIV Study Combined Cohort Study, and serving on The Well Project's Women and HIV/AIDS Research program, among others, thereby ensuring that women's voices were included in the national and global HIV clinical and research agenda.

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Ada was invited to serve on the highest-level professional, advisory, and agenda-setting bodies: the Presidential Advisory Committee on HIV/AIDS, the NIH Office of AIDS Research Advisory Council, the HIV Medicine Association, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Antiretroviral Treatment Guidelines Panel, and the CDC Advisory Committee to the Director.

As a testament to Ada's exceptional leadership and intellect, she was elected twice to the International AIDS Society's Governing Council, served on the Board of Directors for the HIV Medicine Association, and was inducted as a Fellow to the Infectious Diseases Society of America. In 2019, she was elected to the National Academy of Medicine.

Ada's standing in the field also has been recognized by numerous awards, including The UNC Thomas Jefferson Award, the HIVMA Clinical Educator Award, the Infectious Diseases Society of America Edward H. Kass Lecture, the Johns Hopkins University B. Frank Polk Lectureship, and the University of Maryland John P. Johnson Memorial Lecture.

Ada was a selfless mentor to numerous students, fellows, research staff, and junior colleagues. She shared her time and academic prowess to help them launch successful careers in clinical practice and research.

For all her awards, recognition, and international acclaim, Ada's colleagues describe her as humble, kind, quick-witted and always generous. She was passionate about work, family, life, and justice, and had a great sense of humor—including about herself. She was a refined and fastidious woman, who appreciated fine food and wine, fashion, and music—especially jazz.

Ada's death is preceded by that of her soulmate, the late Dr. Paul Alphonso Godley. She is survived by two children—Alegro Nwanneka Adimora Godley and Bria Adimora Godley—who love and miss their mother and best friend.