

**Tribute to
Canute Lloyd Stanford
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1. Cyril Dabydeen wrote:

C. Lloyd Stanford's passing was felt by all who knew him so well, in Ottawa, and elsewhere (not least in his native Jamaica—he was born in Kingston). Lloyd was special to all of us, if only because he was a key figure in our community and contributed immensely to better race relations, human rights and multiculturalism in a changing Canada (fields of my own deep interest and activism).

Areas of governance were Lloyd's primary concern. Initially, he served in the government of Jamaica, then in Saskatchewan, and later in the Canadian federal government in Royal Commission agencies and with the Public Service Commission (staffing) where he brought to bear his own public administration forte. Lloyd completed an MPA at Carleton University and further, graduate work at Queen's University (my own alma mater, and was also a graduate of a Masters of Public Administration, like myself).

Lloyd's achievements were wide-ranging. He was also generous and a philanthropist, to say the least, with donations to Carleton and Queen's universities, among others—his “seven decades of giving.” And yes, he was always affiliated with the University of the West Indies where he received his early education.

His discourse on the subjects (mentioned above) often caught my attention when he addressed meetings and spoke at conferences on diversity with his usually urbane style and manner—expressed in both English and French. (Lloyd was bilingual. His wife, Anita, of over 50 years, was of French-Canadian background). His unstinted community service included being President of the Ottawa Royal Commonwealth Society, among others. Carleton and Queen's universities honoured him, if primarily for his well-known respect for higher learning and scholarship.

In his passing and elegized at the Chapel funeral service in Ottawa, his son and daughter—Marc-Andre and Nathania—outlined their father's many accomplishments in parenting, and in

academia, governance, sports, philanthropy, the arts—the literary arts most of all—which is where Lloyd and I grew closest. “He honored us all,” said his daughter, and he “loved and cherished his family.” His son would laud his “graceful presence.” The grandchildren at the service read from Paul’s letter in Corinthians (in the Bible), regarding the sense of an abiding faith.

Lloyd’s provenance: he sometimes recalled his own family background. His mother and father raised the family with humility. His mother’s natural knack for storytelling was resonant as Lloyd heard her share anecdotes from literature. Lloyd also often praised his father for his own compassion for others, and for being an active member in community work—all forming part of Lloyd’s abiding heritage.

He and I drew to each other particularly because of our Caribbean camaraderie and common literary interests. Yes, he had a commanding sense of a growing Caribbean literature (and not least of drama), including knowledge of my own work over the years, especially after I became Ottawa’s Poet Laureate (1984-87). Lloyd was unstinting in his praise of many writers (for example, poets, Lorna Goodison, Olive Senior, and many others of diverse background). His appreciation of the fine arts as a whole included, art collecting and classical music. At Carleton University (he served on the Board of Governors), the Canute Lloyd Stanford Award in English Literature and the Arts was established, in order to support undergraduate students’ pursuing programs in Literature, Drama Studies or Creative Writing.

Significantly at Carleton University’s radio station, CKCU, Lloyd hosted: “Third World Players Presents”—initially, a pioneering local drama group of which he was a notable “player”—where he discussed postcolonial and Commonwealth literature with his usual insight and encouragement. Much of these CKCU recordings are of value to literary studies. It was an honour to be interviewed by him over the years as we segued into areas of world literature in which Lloyd’s broad knowledge of literatures of many nationalities: Caribbean, African, Indian, Afro-American, and not least Canadian, coming into play.

Memorable was when he helped me launch in Ottawa: *A Shapely Fire: Changing the Literary Landscape* (Mosaic Press, 1987)—a volume I edited to promote the new writing in Canada. And years later, to launch on his radio show: *Beyond Sangre Grande: Caribbean Writing Today* (Mawenzie House, 2011) that I also edited. Lloyd did the same on his radio show for many other writers in promoting their achievements over many years, and we owe him a debt of gratitude.

Literary special events and readings we participated in were integral—never far from Lloyd’s active community spirit, and in association with others from a broad walk of life in his interviews, with whom he fostered long friendships and with whom there was always affection and admiration. Most memorably was when at the National Library of Canada (Ottawa), Lloyd welcomed distinguished poet Derek Walcott to do a reading. Knowing Walcott long ago in their growing-up years, Lloyd maintained contact with him and others as part of sustaining a close Caribbean association and voice.

A very great friend. Lloyd’s passing is a tremendous loss to our community. We extend sincere condolences to his wife Anita, and to the Stanford family. “Your memory will remain long with us, never fade,” I wrote in the *Ottawa Citizen* obituary page, as many others did. *Adieu, dear Lloyd. RIP!*

2. John Samuel wrote:

Lloyd was my neighbor for about eight years. Much later when I formed John Samuel and Associates, a consulting company in order to work on employment equity and related topics, he became a very valuable consultant and friend. Apart from Lloyd's analytical rigor which was commendable, he had a unique role in the organization because of his proficiency in French.

The company had contracts from the federal government to examine (under the Employment Equity Act), the situation in the government and its many departments. We received competitive contracts from about 40 federal departments to do this work, since I had helped to develop a specific research methodology, in consultation with the Canadian Human Rights Commission.

Lloyd worked with me on these projects, since we both had the same approach and motivation to do work to facilitate corporate equity in employment of visible minorities, women, Indigenous people and persons with disabilities. We even looked at the employment situation in the Prime Minister's office in order to evaluate their performance under the Act.

After our research evaluation, we developed recommendations for these departments to correct the deficiencies they had in the hiring and promotion of the designated group members. Obviously many more members of the designated groups were hired and promoted as a result of the company's research projects.

Lloyd was very pleasant and professional in his work. In particular, was his unparalleled ability to remember the main facts in a discussion (of an hour or so) in French, and then be able to write it up using his fluent and elegant English. It was truly remarkable.

I miss his conceptual beauty, effectiveness and simplicity in the work he did for John Samuel and Associates. I would miss him a lot. So long Lloyd, Rest in peace.

3. Cecille DePass wrote: Snapshots of Lloyd Stanford

Long before I ever met him, I remember hearing that Lloyd Stanford was a highly respected federal civil servant, and that he played several influential roles in the federal government. Lloyd was well-known for his efforts to assist with the effective integration of immigrants from the south and for his continuing fight for the fair treatment of visible minorities in the labour market. (Personal Communication: In the late 1980s to early 1990s, from Caroline Fowler, a former, federal Employment Equity officer, in Ottawa).

I met Lloyd Stanford (for the first time) when he was actively involved in his consulting company, John Samuel and Associates. Specifically, it was when John Samuel and his company's representatives conducted their federally commissioned research across Canada, regarding the elimination of racism in the workplace. (See Research summary in *Cultural and Pedagogical Inquiry* (Vol. 12, No. 2, 2020, pp. 165-171). Calgary was one of the cities in which John's company conducted its research). I remember vividly that as I listened intently to Lloyd's astute

analysis that John Samuel said to me (sotto voce), that Lloyd's analysis was absolutely brilliant. I agreed fully.

In Spring 2015, I contacted Lloyd Stanford because I planned to participate in the Social Sciences and Humanities Commission's (SSHRC) Congress at the University of Ottawa. Hearing this, Lloyd invited me to attend Cyril Dabydeen's keynote presentation (in the Literature Department) for the Canadian Association of Commonwealth Language and Literature Studies (CACLALS), and the Association for Canadian and Quebec Literatures (ACQL). I recollect that at Cyril's keynote lecture Lloyd Stanford was there. Furthermore, that by Lloyd attending the lecture, I had the distinct impression of being in the presence of a very wise, senior academic and statesman. Lloyd invited my husband and I, to have a wonderful dinner (later that evening), with his wife, Anita, John Samuel, and my cousin, Angela.

I remember too, reading with great pleasure, Lloyd's written responses and commendations for the work that several colleagues and I completed and published as a Special Issue of Cultural and Pedagogical Inquiry entitled: "Poetics of Geography, Volume 1: Tributes and Memories" (Vol. 11, No. 1, 2019).

Lloyd's passing is an immeasurable loss, not only for many of us who knew him, but I think that Canada and Jamaica have lost a remarkable, highly educated and very generous statesman and gentleman. We will never see his like again. RIP Lloyd.