Ebenezer Kwaku Owusu Koramoah popularly called "Akokora" was born on November 22nd, 1939 in Asunafo in the Akim Abuakwa District in Ghana. His parents were Opanin Martin Kwadwo Owusu and Madam Jane Owusu also from Asunafo, all of blessed memory. Ebenezer Owusu was the second child of the twelve children of his parents. He was known for helping his father on the cocoa farm. He also had a lot of compassion for his parents and siblings. Like the child Jesus who increased in wisdom and stature and in favour with God and man (Luke 2: 52). Ebenezer Owusu grew to become the most trusted and dependable child. Until the death of his parents, he was supporting the family financially and in other areas in the family.

HIS EARLY LIFE AND EDUCATION

Ebenezer Owusu attended the Asunafo Presbyterian Primary School and had his middle school education at the Abomosu Presbyterian Senior/Middle School. Having completed his middle school, he continued his education at Bekwai SDA Secondary School where he obtained his GCE/ Advanced Level certificates in 1959.
Ebenezer Owusu finally gained admission to the then Adventist College of West Africa (ACWA), now Babcock University in Nigeria where he graduated in 1963 with Diploma in Business Administration. He later went to Michigan State University, USA to satisfy his thirst for knowledge. Elder Owusu went back to Nigeria for further studies at the Adventist Seminary of West Africa (ASWA), now Babcock University where he obtained BSc. in Accounting and Business Administration.

**HIS WORK CAREER:** While in school, Elder Owusu worked as an Auditor with the Africa Indian Ocean Division (AID) Auditing Service in Accra. He took his first appointment in 1960 with the Ghana Mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church head office in Kumasi Kwadaso as a Bookkeeper and worked for about a year. When he returned from Michigan he took up a job with a British Company called Rickett and Coleman as a Senior Accountant. After thirteen years of service to this company in Nsawam and Accra, he went back to acquire a BSc. in Accounting and Business Administration which qualified him to become the Assistant Treasurer in the Ghana Mission of the SDA from 1964 to 1967.

**HIS MARITAL LIFE:** Elder Owusu got married to his dear wife, Margaret Peace Owusu in 1964. The marriage was blessed with three children: Mrs. Esther Ahimah Adjei- (worker in the WAD treasury department) Deborah and Ebenezer fondly called "lojo" Owusu Junior.

**HIS CONTRIBUTIONS AS AN ACCOUNTANT/TREASURER TO THE SDA CHURCH:** Elder Owusu served the church in diverse capacities as an accountant, treasurer, auditor and bookkeeper among others.

- He had served as an Auditor in Zaire, Nigeria Union and Cameroon Missions.

Elder and Mrs. Ebenezer Kwaku Owusu
➢ Between March 1988 and December 1990 he worked as the Assistant Treasurer of Central Africa Union Mission of Seventh-day Adventist Church in Cameroon.
➢ From 1991 to July, 1993 he was the Treasurer of the Zaire Union Mission
➢ From August 1993 to 1995, he served as the Treasurer of the West African Union Mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Monrovia Liberia
➢ September 1995 to 2002, he was the Associate Treasurer of the Africa Indian Ocean Division in Abidjan, Cote d’ Ivoire.
➢ He was later promoted to the position of Under Treasurer of the West-Central Africa Division from 2003-2009 in Abidjan, Cote d’ Ivoire.

Within the period of his service, Elder Owusu attended most of the General Conference sessions held in many parts of the world.

His favorite quotation is from the Life Sketches of Ellen G. White, page 196 which says:

*In reviewing our past history, having traveled over every step of advance to our present standing, I can say, Praise God! As I see what the Lord has wrought, I am filled with astonishment, and with confidence in Christ as leader. We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history.*

His favorite hymn according to his wife is "How Sweet the name of Jesus sounds in a Believer's ears" (SDAH No. 238)

**HIS LAST DAYS:** In 1999 Eld. Owusu had a very serious automobile accident in Cote d'Ivoire which led to a spinal injury. He was flown back to Ghana where he underwent an Orthopedic Internal Fixations surgery (ORIF) at the St. Joseph Hospital in Koforidua. The saints of God prayed and his health was slowly but gradually restored. It took months to get back on his feet and fully recovered. Due to his selfless devotion to 'duty he went back to continue with his work and service to God and humanity.

On the 20th of June 2009, he was called to rest by His Maker at the Kwadaso Adventist Hospital in Kumasi, after a protracted illness. To the mission of the Seventh Day Adventist, he was an Accountant, Treasurer, and Auditor. To the family he was a Brother, Father, Husband, Uncle, and the sustainer who kept the family alive. Elder Owusu had great love for everybody who came his way and was a helper to many helpless individuals. He is survived
by his dear wife Margaret Peace Owusu and three children.

Mrs. Esther Ahimah Adjei                Deborah Owusu                        Ebenezer Owusu (Junior)

We hereby reproduce the tributes presented by the Riviera Seventh-day Adventist Church and Ghana Union Conference in favour of Elder Owusu.

A TRIBUTE FROM THE RIVIERA SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH, ABIDJAN, COTE D’IVOIRE IN LOVING MEMORY OF ELDER EBENEZER KWAKU OWUSU

The Words of Our Saviour, Jesus Christ were, and are still... "I am the resurrection and the life, he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live." John 11:25

The late Elder E.K. Owusu was admired and loved by all! He was kind, caring, wise and forthright. He touched the hearts of everyone he met. He had many interests but none could be compared with his flair for accounting. He was an accounting guru who trusted more in his God-given brains than depending on the easy-way-round computer accounting. He was a tireless, hardworking, and energetic worker until 1999 when he had a car accident. That unfortunate incident slowed him down considerably though still being very ruthless with himself.

_Old Man_, as we fondly called him, enjoyed helping the less privileged and was always giving and sharing his material possessions with them especially, those who lived around him or worked for him either as house helpers or watchmen.
We will remember him for his words of wisdom. We will also remember him for the didactic stories he told as he preached and related to all around him. He served as an active elder for the Riviera church. One of his last memories was when he was put in charge of the family life. His desire was that by the end of the year all the singles in the church would be settled and happily married. He will surely be missed by all those who worked for and with him and all his colleagues who gave him joy and fulfillment. He will also be missed by his church and the brethren that he served very faithfully….Our beloved Elder Ebenezer Kwaku Owusu will rest in perfect peace till the resurrection of the dead at our Saviour' soon return!

A TRIBUTE FROM THE GHANA UNION CONFERENCE

Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might, for in the grave, where you are going, there is neither working nor planning nor knowledge nor wisdom (Ecclesiastes 9:10)

Elder Ebenezer Kwaku Owusu served as an Accountant and Treasurer for the Ghana Mission (1960-63) and the West African Union Mission (1993-95) respectively. To all those who related with Elder Owusu his death is a great loss, and to those of us who had the privilege of enjoying his warm friendship it is a grief that we shall never more be able to see his gentle and contagious smile and listen to his words of wisdom. But we are grateful to God that the memories he left behind will remain an ever-living source of fortitude, inspiration, and encouragement.

We cherish the fact that the same spirit that characterized Akokora's unique achievements as an accountant and church elder also marked his attitude in all human relations—spirit of love, truth, dedication, and hard work. In all his endeavors Eld.Owusu behaved with unchanging natural modesty and expressed himself with a subtle and charming humor. He was always prepared to help people in difficulties of any kind. His real love was God's work which he pursued with unremitting vigor to the very end of his more than 45 years of active service. His devotion to duty allowed him to accept appointments to other parts of Africa—East, West, Central, North, and South.

From his work profile, our beloved brother could be regarded as a missionary and ambassador, not only for Christ but also the church and his nation, Ghana.
Wherever Akokora worked he endeared himself as a dedicated and faithful servant of God among the people he served.

Elder Owusu was a unique personality. He was not attracted by fame or fortune nor swayed by the opinions of the majority. He knew his talent and guarded it jealously against outside interference. Accounting was his life, and he lived it according to his own lights, with complete objectivity and integrity. With this passion and experiences gained over the years he helped a great deal in shaping the budgetary and financial plans of many Adventist organizations across the length and breadth of Africa.

As an Under Treasurer the imprint of his contribution will give direction to God's cause, both within and beyond the frontiers of the West-Central Africa Division for generations to come. Now we look forward to the Glorious Resurrection Morning when, by the grace of God we shall re-unite with the saints including brother Ebenezer Kwaku Owusu-AKOKORA-at the beautiful shore. AMEN!

CONCLUSION: Elder Owusu lived his life to the fullest and was able to leave wonderful legacies behind. Many testimonies about his relationship with others as well as his commitment to the cause of God showed that indeed he was a rare gem. His children saw him as a disciplinarian yet a loving father who will always care for their well being not minding the nature of his work. During his life time he impacted the accounting and auditing systems of the Division positively. He was an expert in his chosen career. He never left any job undone. He was a missionary and an ambassador of God to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. His impact will greatly be missed.

Sources:
