

# TRIBUTES

2024-2025

## MS JANET SINGH

(1947 – 2024)

**Ms Janet Singh** served as Executive Assistant to Secretary-General Sir Shridath Ramphal from 1975-1990.

- *Sad news. **Mary Mackie***
- *Thanks for sending this sad news. During my six years in the SG's Office we all worked as a cheerful and happy team, with a good sense of humour to keep us going in difficult times. All I can say now is that I will always remember Janet with affection and as someone who kept us all cheerful. Please tell Raj/David my heartfelt thoughts are with him at this time. **Mark Robinson***
- *What sad news. Janet and I overlapped in the Secretariat by about 6 months. She was just leaving while I was just joining. But we did meet up again years later in the Commonwealth Association where she often enthusiastically threw herself into stuffing envelopes and affixing stamps to various invitations we sent out. She was always helpful and jolly. She is at peace now. **Cheryl Dorall***
- *My sincere condolences to her family and friends. May her soul rest in peace. **Lorna McLaren***
- *Very sad to read this. Janet's path and mine were essentially separate in regard to our work areas in ComSec. It was after my term in the Secretariat was over that I got to know Janet better. For instance she sometimes joined a few of us at lunches where former colleagues had arranged to meet and she was always a happy addition to them. May she now have her rest in a place of refreshment, light and peace. **Raja Gomez***
- *Sad news indeed. May she rest in eternal peace. **William Rezel***

## **MR MWAMBU WANENDEYA**

(-2025)



**Mr Mwambu Wanendeya** worked as Public Affairs Officer in the Communications Division of the Commonwealth Secretariat from 1995 – 2006. During his tenure, he coordinated publicity opportunities with external media for the Secretary-General and other members of senior management.

- *I am sorry to inform that ex-ComSec staff member Mwambu Wanendeya passed away a couple of days ago after a long illness. He joined ComSec in 1995 I think and was chiefly responsible for radio, film and broadcasting matters, as well as the dissemination of Commonwealth news and public affairs duties. Mwambu died in his home country, Uganda, and I attach here information on his funeral arrangements. **Cheryl Dorall***
- *I was shocked and saddened to hear of Mwambu's passing. At Comsec he was in the same division as you and me but the Library was in the basement of Marlborough House and he was on the ground floor of Quadrant House across the road. However, he had a studio in the basement of Marlborough House and we occasionally saw him working there. We worked together a couple of times but not for long periods.*

*He was a lively person, highly intelligent and always ready to explore new ways of getting the Commonwealth better known. He had a number of high powered jobs after leaving Comsec, as shown on his LinkedIn page, where he describes his time at Comsec. He was an intensive user of X, formerly Twitter. **David Blake***

- I am very sorry to hear of Mwambu's death. He was a consummate professional - hardworking, creative, bright but soft-spoken and engaging, with a good sense of humour. It was a pleasure to work with him on many projects over the years, and my heart goes out to his family. **Stuart Mole**
- *It was for me and I'm sure others, a deep sadness, to have heard of Mwambo's passing after a long illness. Mwambu Wanendeya was the perfect public affairs officer in the Secretariat when I arrived in April 2000. He very soon ensured I met all there was to meet across the key London media people who showed interest in the Commonwealth. He was the consummate professional who knew his trade intimately, could throw a press release together on his phone and ensured it landed well. Nothing was too much even in the weekends to ensure that I or the Commonwealth responded in an efficient manner.*

*I was sorry when he left Comsec in 2006 but was pleased to see he went onto more greater and successful challenges. The fondest of good wishes and sympathy go out to his family who will always be proud of his achievements, from Clare and myself. Don McKinnon* (Sir Don McKinnon, Commonwealth Secretary-General, 2000-2008)

- *I wanted to add my deep sadness at Mwambu's passing. For me as I joined COMSEC trying to navigate my way, he was a smiling light of happiness and can-do-ness. I can mainly see him scheming a press release, speech or media strategy over Mischa's desk readying something for the SG and then darting off to do something else totally necessary to make the Commonwealth come across as well as it could in any circumstance. And better. I am really sad at his passing - as a bright light in the world leaves us. Michele Law*
- *I too am sorry to read of Mwambu's death and of his long illness. Although not working for Comsec then I remember his contribution in broadcasting. Like Stuart I am thinking of his family now. Richard Bourne*

**Selected links:**

[Ugandans shining abroad: Mwambu is flying Uganda's flag in telecom business | Monitor](#)

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