



Living High School  
P.O. Box 2376  
Bungoma, Kenya  
50200

info@livinghopehighschool.org  
LivinghopeHS@gmail.com

**December 2023**



### *The Void- Sandy Binotto*



This Christmas at Living Hope High School there will be a big void, the physical presence of our dear beloved Mum, Marilyn Uhl will not be there. With a saddened heart they all grieve. Marilyn Kay Uhl, -73 Creator and Director of Living Hope High School passed away on Tuesday, November 21 at 4:17pm Kenya time. Cause of death was pulmonary embolism.

She was having some medical problems and not breathing well and was taken to the hospital in Webuye, after being there for a day the doctors decided to transfer her to another hospital in Eldoret. Unfortunate she passed before they got her transported.

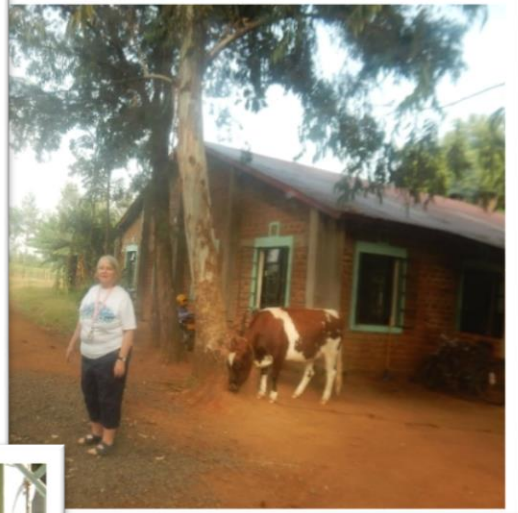
The school decided to keep the news quite until the students finished their final national exams. Students and staff were informed three days later after lunch. I know it was so shocking for the students and everyone who loved her. She was a mother and friend to so many. She was also well known in the community for all the good the school did for those in need.

Marilyn's funeral was held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2023. It was a big celebration of her life. People from all over came to give their respects, graduate students, present students and people of the community filled the space around the school. Testimonies were given on how she was a mother to many, encouraged and nudged them onward when they left the school. It was shared that about 1,500 hundred people where present to give their respects to her and condolences to staff and students. She was buried in a banana grove on the ground of the school. As per her request.

Marilyn will be remembered for her *calling that the Lord laid upon her heart to feed and teach the children who were less fortunate*. She with many others joined together to buy land and build the school that now takes in children from many places to teach and to give them a good Christian education. Many have graduated to go onward to become teachers, doctors, researchers, construction workers and the list goes on. They were given love and hope at the school that made them a family.

The school will continue onward with the Hope that she planted there for them. Those of us in the states and the staff at the school will be working together to make sure it keeps Shining Bright, caring for the less fortunate and giving them a good education. We will keep everyone updated of any changes.

I will be leaving with a small team January 7-24, 2024 to work at the school and attend the graduation for the new graduating class. It will be so different not seeing Marilyn there to greet us with the children singing, but I know I will feel the presence of her spirit all around the school.



*Rest in Peace  
Our Dear Marifyn*



## *Resting at Living Hope*

Marilyn was laid to rest on December 2, 2023 at the School Grounds at Living Hope. It was her wish to be buried on the School grounds. Graduates, students, staff and many community persons came to say goodbye to Mum Marilyn who was so loved in Kenya. She will be missed and the staff at Living Hope and those who worked with her in the states are working hard at keeping the school going and running like she dreamed it would.



If anyone would like to make a donation in Memory of Marilyn, please send it to Riverton, UMC. P.O. Box 23, Riverton, WV. 26814

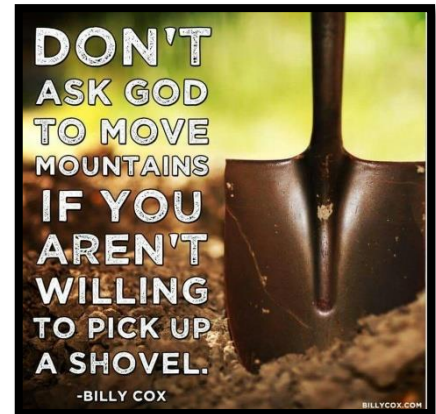
## *Graduation*

This year graduation will take place on January 13, 2024. It will be a little different with Mum Marilyn missing. I am sure there will be music, testimonies and a joy of the students accomplishments shared. Guest speakers will share and refreshments with parents will take place. As they leave Living Hope they leave with a diploma, and many memories and friendships that will last a lifetime. Some will go onto college, some will go to a trade school and some will go back home and try to figure out what to do next with their lives. We wish them all well and to carry what they learned at Living Hope in their hearts forever. To trust in the Lord, pray without ceasing, and to be kind and help those in need.



The school has been busy getting ready for the graduation and incoming Form 1 students, who will arrive January 15. They have been painting, cleaning the dorms, and plastering the walls. Some Living Hope students have stayed behind to help with the work. It is looking very good! They have done a good job!





### *New Email*

A new email was created for all sponsors to use for correspondence to the school. It can also be used to send sponsors letters to their students and for any questions. All students' letters to their sponsors will now come through this email. Their letters will be reviewed and then sent onto the sponsors who have email. If the student has a sponsor who doesn't have email then they will be sent to them through the mail.

The new email is [LivinghopeHS.org@gmail.com](mailto:LivinghopeHS.org@gmail.com)



## Graduates Reunion

Living Hope High School Graduates gathered together to visit Living Hope. While there they fellowship and sharing a meal with the students. They enjoyed games and activities with them.



### From Left to Right:

Luiz Were, Leonard Wakhungu, Nick Simiyu, Morphat Wamalwa, Enos Nyongesa, Gabriel Walela, Abel Masinde and Josepha Wanamo

## New Form One Students Joining 2024

15 January 2024, we have **31** new form one students joining Living Hope High School. For them it will be a time of excitement and a few butterflies in their stomachs as they leave their home to start on a new education adventure. Welcome kits to start them off will be given to them along with instructions and rules for attending the school. Sandy Binotto the U.S. Coordinator and 3 team members, Donna, and Vicky. will also be there to welcome them along with the rest of the Living Hope Staff. I am sure it will take a little while for them to adjust but they will soon make new friends and be learning with the rest of the students. All of those students will need a sponsor. Their stories will be written up while the mission team is there and posted on the website soon.

We still have 26 students who still need sponsorship. If your heart is moved to help sponsor a needy student please contact Sandy Binotto at [yashe4jc@hotmail.com](mailto:yashe4jc@hotmail.com) for information.

## Continuing Onward

The School will continue on as usual. The staff there and those on the U.S. side will be looking at many things in the absence of Marilyn. We want to keep the school going as she created it to be. A school that is grounded Christian's principles that will nurture the young generation to be successful without being dependent. We want to thank all of those who stood strong and continued onward at the school in her absence, these include Principle Stanley Kutiri, Business Manager- Murunga Josephat, Nurse Catherine Nelima, House Mom and Cook, Caroline June, and Secretary-Naphtal Sikuku. We also thank those who in the staff who kept the kids feed, teachers who taught the students and all the others who work behind the scenes so hard to keep Living Hope running. Treasurer- LaVonne Hammett on the U.S. and Sandy Binotto- U.S. Coordinator.

We are consulting with some people who will be coming in to train and keep the school, staff and others up to date as how to make it a school that still shines for Christ and promotes good education. There are some projects in the pipeline these include Library construction. There is also a need to purchase new tables and chairs for the students. Some have worn out beyond repair.

### Thank You

We want to thank you, to all the donors and sponsors for your support over the years and giving the students HOPE! The school couldn't continue without you. We deeply love all of you.



### Prayers Needs:

- For the 2024 team traveling to Kenya, leaving January 7-24 to Living Hope: Sandy Binotto, Donna Hinkle, and Vickie Adkins.
- For the staff and U.S persons to continue to work together for the school and some changes that are being discussed. Pray that the Lord will direct them in all of their decisions.
- For the students who will be graduating January 13, 2024, that the Lord will give them wisdom and guidance for their future.
- The arrival of the 31 new students that they will settle in and be sponsored.

### Items needed for the school:

- New tables and chairs

### Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

*A new year will be upon us soon and with new things come change. Change is always constant.*

*May the New Year bring a change in our hearts, for Christ!*

**Sandy Binotto U.S. Coordinator**  
198 Cape Cod Dr.  
Augusta, WV. 26704  
304-839-1505  
Yashe4jc@hotmail.com

**LaVonne Hammett-Treasurer**  
lvhammett@yahoo.com  
304-567-3139

