

TOP OFFICIALS EULOGISE MAGAMBO'S SON

By Richard Ategeka

Senior government officials, security chiefs, Members of Parliament and Judiciary leaders have joined the family of Criminal Investigations Directorate chief Tom Magambo to mourn his son, Timothy Muganzi Magambo.

The sombre gathering of hundreds at a requiem mass at Our Lady of Africa Catholic Church in Mbuya, Kampala, yesterday was marked by tears and long silence as speakers delivered emotional tributes to the deceased, who drowned while swimming with friends in New York on May 16.

Muganzi, 18, was described as a gentle young man whose kindness and quiet generosity impacted many lives in communities around him will be buried on May 28, at the family's ancestral home in Kisarabwire Village, Masindi district.

The Mass drew a high-profile congregation, with Deputy Speaker Thomas Tayebwa attending as chief mourner alongside ministers, permanent secretaries, commissioners, senior police officers and members of the diplomatic community.

Tayebwa described the loss of a child as one of the deepest pains any parent could endure and urged the family to remain strong in faith despite the tragedy.

"Losing a son, losing a brother, for any parent, is one of the most painful moments," he said, wishing that God grants Assistant Inspector General of Police (AIGP) Magambo and his



Magambo (second-left) and his wife Caroline laying a wreath on Magambo's casket during a requiem mass at Our Lady of Africa, Catholic Church, in Mbuya, Kampala, yesterday. Inset is the late Muganzi

family peace and strength to overcome the tragedy.

Security minister Kahinda Otafiire comforted the grieving family, saying: "You need time to cry. Do not suppress your grief."

Foreign affairs ministry permanent secretary Vincent Bagire added that the fraternity stood in solidarity with Magambo and his wife, Caroline Nalwanga Magambo, a senior Foreign Service officer currently serving in Uganda's diplomatic service.

FAMILY SPEAKS OUT

In an emotional tribute, Magambo recounted how he met his wife Caroline, at Makerere University over

BETWEEN THE LINES

O The late succumbed to severe complications after spending several minutes underwater, following a swimming adventure.

two decades ago and praised her dedication to both family and country.

"She has held this family together, despite the demands of diplomatic service and constant movement from one country to another," he said.

Magambo also revealed details surrounding the tragic incident.

"They went out for an adventure,

and it was not the first time they went swimming. This time, he developed a problem in the water, and his friends tried to rescue him in vain," he narrated.

He said doctors later informed the family that Muganzi had suffered severe complications after spending several minutes underwater.

Magambo thanked President Yoweri Museveni, senior government officials, the Uganda Police Force and friends who stood with the family during the difficult period.

Meanwhile, Nalwanga described her son as "a light that shone brightly" and a young man who quietly impacted many lives.

"I did not know the kind of impact my son had on different people until his passing," she said.

"Young and old people came to our home speaking about how he made them feel seen, loved and encouraged."

Jonathan Magambo, Timothy's younger and only sibling, said his brother was his greatest inspiration.

"My elder brother was caring, brave and inspirational and I will continue to see the light he carried," said

He recalled that Muganzi's favourite song was John Lennon's *Imagine*, adding that he constantly spoke about building a better future for his family and community with big ideas and so much passion.

DEATH IS INEVITABLE

Father Augustus Hector Businge of Hoima Diocese, who led the Mass, reminded mourners that death is an unavoidable reality of life.

"Whether we live long or short lives, death is part of life," the priest said.

"Blessed are those who die in the goodness of God like Muganzi."

Principal Judge Jane Frances Abodo praised Magambo's resilience, saying he remained focused on his national duties despite his grief.

Family friend Edwin Karugire said the testimonies shared during the mass showed that the deceased had lived an impactful life, despite his young age.

"Parents can only find solace and comfort in God," Karugire said.

Timothy Magambo's burial is set for tomorrow in Masindi.