I LEARNED with deep sadness of the untimely death of Dr. Jane Goodall, an icon in the world of science and conservation. A pioneer in her field and a leader in the fight against climate change and wildlife protection, she drowned in the British hospital on Tuesday, March 31, from a cancer that she had been battling for several years.

Dr. Goodall was not only a colleague, she was a mentor and a source of inspiration to me. Her advocacy for the work of the Jane Goodall Institute and her dedication to the cause of wildlife conservation, particularly in the African bush, inspired me to join her in her mission.

I was honored to be invited to join the board of the Jane Goodall Institute in 2010, following the Aids Programme of Research in Women and Children, a project that aims to extend our healthcare capabilities to help families and communities.

Her passing is an immense loss for the field of wildlife conservation and her research and treatment, particularly on the African continent.

Dr. Goodall was the chief scientific officer of the Jane Goodall Institute and a former faculty member of the Auburn University.

For the past several years, she held the position of chief scientist and the president of the Jane Goodall Institute. She was a member of the Scientific Council of the American Medical Research Council (SMARC) and a member of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Commission on Wildlife Health. She was a member of the Board of Directors of the World Wildlife Fund (WWF). She was a fellow of the Royal Society and served as an advisor to numerous governmental and non-governmental organizations.

In 2018, she received the World Food Prize in recognition of her contributions to the field of food security. She was an honorary doctorate of the University of Illinois, an honorary doctorate of the University of the Royal Society of Canada and an honorary doctorate of the University of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Dr. Goodall was a dynamic and influential leader in the field of science and conservation. Her legacy will live on through the work of her organization and the many projects and initiatives she supported and supported.

In an interview in 2018, her poignant words summed up her lifelong commitment: "We have a responsibility to our children and the future generations. We must work together to protect our planet, and it's not too late to make a difference."