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In Memoriam: Remembering Fatima Sydow

NB Publishers bids farewell to Fatima Sydow, who passed away on 19 December after a long and courageous battle with cancer.

Fatima Sydow, a cook and former caterer, possessed a rare talent of using her food to unite people. Her infectious love of both cooking and humanity radiated through every dish, bringing joy to countless individuals around South Africa. Through her Facebook page, where she generously shared her recipes, Fatima garnered a massive following and became a beloved national treasure.

In 2020, she embarked on a new culinary journey, starting a YouTube channel that quickly gained traction, amassing an impressive 61,400 subscribers. Fatima's ability to connect with her audience showcased her genuine passion for cooking and her unwavering commitment to sharing her knowledge.

Together with her twin sister, Gadija, Fatima graced the television screens of food enthusiasts with their own cooking programme, *Kaap, kerrie & koesisters*, on Via TV (DStv 147). The dynamic duo brought warmth and flavour to households, creating a lasting impact on the foodie landscape.

At NB Publishers, we were honoured to have been a part of Fatima's literary journey. The collaboration between Fatima and Gadija resulted in the publication of *Cape, Curry & Koesisters*, available in both English and Afrikaans. Subsequently, Fatima continued to share her expertise in *Fatima Sydow Cooks* and her most recent book, *Fatima Sydow, Cape Malay Cooking*.

Fatima's Publisher, Lindy Samery said: "Fatima was more than an author, she became one of my good friends. We journeyed together on all her books – what a remarkable human. I am honoured to have known her. Fly high, my dearest Fati, till we meet again."

CEO of NB Publishers Eloise Wessels said: "Fatima was a cook of unsurpassed skill, a delightful author, and the loveliest person. Our thoughts are with her loved ones in this sad time of unspeakable loss."

Fatima Sydow's warm spirit, infectious passion and talent will be sorely missed by fans, colleagues and the community she touched with her magic. NB Publishers extends heartfelt condolences to Fatima's family, friends and all those who were fortunate enough to be touched by her kindness and creativity. May she rest in eternal peace, leaving behind a legacy that continues to inspire and bring people together through the love of food and community.

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