

MEC Mhlahlo will be missed

By **CHRIS QWAZI**

FORMER MEC Thobile Mhlahlo was laid to rest on Saturday.

Mhlahlo, who was Eastern Cape transport and public works MEC, died at St Georges Hospital on 17 May after a short illness.

More than 1 500 mourners attended his funeral at Nangoza Jebe Hall in New Brighton and he was buried at North End Cemetery in Port Elizabeth.

Speakers said he was an honest government official who hated corruption.

National Heritage Council boss Advocate Sonwabile Mangcotywa said: "He was one of the first ANC leaders to serve in provincial government and the main man behind former first premier Oom Ray Mhlaba. The old man wasn't comfortable without Mhlahlo during the provincial meetings."

He said former MEC was deeply worried by the corruption levels.

Acting premier Mlungisi Mvoko said: "He served his people with distinction. He was uncompromising over corruption."



Mourners at former Eastern Cape MEC Thobile Mhlahlo's funeral.

Photo by Chris Qwazi

His brother-in-law Anathi Mzinyathi said: "I met him in 1991 when he came back from exile. He was a family man and he respected his culture. We will miss him."

His widow Nomana said: "I shared my husband with the nation. He was our strength."