



# *Patrick Mosell Molaoa* (1925 – 1968)

---

## ORDER OF LUTHULI IN GOLD (POSTHUMOUS)

AWARDED TO  
PATRICK MOSELL MOLAOA  
FOR EXCEPTIONAL  
LEADERSHIP IN THE  
STRUGGLE OF THE YOUTH  
AGAINST APARTHEID AND  
FOR LAYING DOWN HIS LIFE  
TO ATTAIN FREEDOM AND  
DEMOCRACY FOR ALL IN  
SOUTH AFRICA

Born in Johannesburg in 1925, Patrick Mosell Molaoa grew up in Alexandra Township, attended schools in Basutoland (Lesotho), Johannesburg, and matriculated in Kimberley.

In his early adulthood, Molaoa ran a gymnasium in the Western Native Township in Johannesburg and worked as a clerk for the Public Utility Transport Company (PUTCO). Molaoa became active in the ANC Youth League (ANCYL) and served as its Transvaal treasurer and assistant secretary in the mid-1950s. He was elected national president of the ANCYL in July 1959 and consequently, was amongst the first accused in the Treason Trial.

After his acquittal in 1961, he joined Umkhonto We Sizwe (MK) and underwent military training outside of the country. He was killed in action in 1968 while involved in a guerrilla skirmish in southern Rhodesia (Zimbabwe).

Patrick Mosell Molaoa was among the first MK cadre to die in combat.