



Freddie Walker

April 10, 1936 - September 11, 2014

FREDDIE WALKER was born in Savanna, Georgia April 10, 1936 to the late Johnny and Mable Walker. He was the youngest of five brothers who have preceded him in death. He grew up in mt. Zion Church in Savannah, Georgia which instilled the importance of God first and forging close family ties. At a young tender age, his parents encouraged him to be industrious, to give back to the community, and to stand strong in the midst of adversity.

Freddie attended Alfred Beach High School and Savannah State University where he majored in Physical Education. In his home state of Georgia, Mr. Walker was active in the Civil Rights Movement, participating in many civil protests against segregation. Because he displayed a bold, courageous demeanor he was offered a position to become a bodyguard for Martin Luther King, Jr. After relocating to Baltimore in the late 1950's he became active member of the Baltimore Civic Interest Group and the NAACP.

While selling tickets at an NAACP meeting, Freddie met the love of his life, Coby Byrd. After a year's courtship, Freddie and Coby married November 12, 1961 at Douglas Memorial Community Church. Two years later, the oldest of the Walker children was born, Robyn Kimberly Walker. Soon after the birth of Robyn they purchased a home on Virginia Avenue. A short four years later, the family was blessed with the arrival of their second daughter, Tracey Cherelyn Walker.

Freddie had a tremendous love for his family. He was a hard working man who worked several jobs to meet the needs of his family. He worked for Cloverland dairy, stocked vending machines for Alders Vending, and even sold cars for B & B motors to make extra income.

In 1965 Freddie began his employment with Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks. He worked in several Recreation Centers throughout the city. In 1993 he was retired on medical disability. During his 28 years with the Department of Recreation and Parks he coached football, basketball and track teams. He was a strong advocate and positive influence for the youth and young adults with whom he came in contact. He encouraged team play and good sportsmanship at all times.

Mr Walker was one of the pioneers of the Baltimore Neighborhood Basketball League. To promote the activities of the Department, he annually invited the Coach and Police Boy's Club Basketball team of Savannah, Georgia to come to Baltimore for the two day City Wide Tournament. Mr. Walker wanted to inspire team spirit and excite competition among the youth.

In a Baltimore Evening Sun article, June 22, 1972, entitled "Lexington Terrace Eyes Third Chance", Mr. Walker is quoted as saying, "We keep the playground open every night until 10:00 p.m. It keeps the boys off the streets and out of trouble. By the time they leave my place, they're too tired to do anything but sleep." Mr. Walker was big on poetry and loved to keep the players happy. Many will remember hi through his signature saying, his most quoted slogan was, "Can you handle it?" In 1991, Mr. Walker received a Citizen Citation from the former Mayor of Baltimore, Kurt L. Schmoke in recognition of the unselfish gift of his time and energy to the City's Berea Community.

Mr. Walker was an avid supporter of Camp Farthest Out established by Douglas Memorial Community Church to help underprivileged kids attend summer camp. He was also known as The Neighborhood Watch Man – who kept his eyes and ears open for any suspicious activity in his family's neighborhood.

Freddie loved to collect antique artifacts, he also enjoyed making his delicious old-fashioned, homemade vanilla ice-cream, using his old antique ice-cream churn. His ice cream was an all time favorite loved not only by his family; but was also a big hit at the Douglas Memorial annual Family church picnics held at Camp Farthest Out in the late 70's and in the 80's. Fred was a lover of classic antique cars. He restored and collected many cars. Among his favorites were his '66 Mustang and his '48 Buick which he sported as a member of the Baltimore area's Royal Antique (Car) Club. Speaking of sports, Freddie was a dedicated fan of the Los Angeles Lakers (basketball) and Dodgers (baseball) Teams and the former Baltimore Colts.

Freddie leaves to cherish his memory: two daughters, Robyn White of Laurel, Maryland and Tracey Rogers of Baltimore, Maryland; one grandson, Keith Amos Rogers; two sisters-in-law, Dorothy Walker and Willa Mae Walker; many nieces, nephews; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Previous Events

Public Viewing

SEP **19**. 8:30 AM - 8:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - West Baltimore
4300 Wabash Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215
(410) 542-2400
info@marchfh.com

Wake

SEP **20**. 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Douglas Memorial
1325 Madison Avenue
Baltimore, MD

Service

SEP **20**. 10:30 AM (ET)

Douglas Memorial
1325 Madison Avenue
Baltimore, MD

Tribute Wall



“ *Freddie Walker*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *I would like to express my sincere condolences in the loss of your dear loved one .May the resurrection hope Jesus spoke of in the Bible at John 5 : 28,29 be a source of comfort doing this time of grief and pain.*

Delores Allen - September 16, 2014 at 04:17 AM



“ *We the March Family and Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.*

March Funeral Homes - September 15, 2014 at 09:02 AM