



Walter R. Dean Jr.

December 12, 1934 - September 18, 2015

Walter Raleigh Dean, Jr., born December 12, 1934 at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, MD, was the first of ten children raised and nurtured by his parents, Walter Raleigh Dean, Sr. and Ruth Annette Alston Dean. His parents preceded him in death. After a lengthy illness and a tremendous fight, Walter transitioned from this world on the afternoon of Friday, September 18, 2015 at the age of 80.

Walter spent his early childhood years in East Baltimore. At the age of seven, World War II began, which inspired his interest in building model airplanes. Even after the family moved to Cherry Hill, he would walk to the hobby shop in Brooklyn for airplane parts. Other hobbies and past times of his youth included photography, crabbing, fishing and chess; but his all-time favorite was reading. His siblings remember Walter as a good brother who would tie the bathroom reading books.

A Call to Choose (Service)

While maintaining his academics, Walter worked part-time at the bowling alley and in various restaurants during the summer. After graduating from Dunbar, Walter entered the United States Air Force in 1954 and was honorably discharged in August 1958. During a tour in Italy, he saw the "real" dangers of poverty, which then motivated him to deepen his observation of the human condition and subsequently became an advocate for social justice.

A Call to Chisel (Knowledge)

He entered Morgan State College where he earned a Bachelor's degree in English and a Master's degree in Social Work from the University of Maryland. For Dean, few things were more important than literacy. He sought knowledge wherever he could find it holding subscriptions to over 30 magazines. He was regularly seen at McDonald's with at least five newspapers discussing issues with his friends. In the true spirit of encouraging literacy, he left his papers for others to read.

A Call to Challenge (Culture)

Throughout his college career he was actively involved in several organizations and activities. In the early civil rights era, Dean was one of the first four students to be arrested in the ongoing struggle to desegregate businesses. This bold and adamant stance would lead to many others becoming increasingly involved in the Civil Rights Movement in Baltimore City.

A Call to Change (Community)

His father's legacy of community service and Walter's own college activism days prepared him to serve in the Maryland House of Delegates from 1971 to 1982. In the community where he lived, he developed several programs, including the revitalization of the Howard Park Business District, the creation of the Howard Park Economic Development Corporation and the Howard Park Business Organization.

A Call to Charge (Others)

At the Community College of Baltimore City (now BCCC), Dean taught a variety of subjects including science, math, urban studies, computer technology and history. After 40 years of service, he was honored to receive the status of Distinguished Professor Emeritus in Sociology with his colleague (the late Harry Smith) - the first in history of the college. He was tireless in his

advocacy for his students, faculty and the greater CCBC community. When he retired, he donated most of his personal library to the school enhancing its literacy collection.

A Call to Champion (Causes)

Walter was a true public servant who cared about the people he was elected or chose to serve. During the course of his life he was an active participant on over 30 organizations - as a member or chairperson. His tenacity for excellence in everything he did earned him the respect and friendship of many. He received numerous awards and accolades of appreciation for his services locally and beyond.

A Call to Cherish (Family)

Left to celebrate the life and legacy of the Honorable Walter R. Dean, Jr. are his brothers: Paul and Ransom Dean; his sisters: Annette Hart, Patricia Muldrow, Delores Prout, Sonia Wells, Gloria Rolling (Willie), Janice Rice (Levi), Carolyn Holt; one aunt, Yvonne Hardy; one special friend, Henri Daniels; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and family. He was blessed to have numerous friends-some for more than 50 years.

Previous Events

viewing

SEP **29**. 8:30 AM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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

Family Hour

SEP **29**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

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

Wake

SEP **30**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

City Temple Church.
317 Dolphin St.
Baltimore, MD 21217

Service

SEP **30**. 11:00 AM (ET)

City Temple Church.
317 Dolphin St.
Baltimore, MD 21217

Tribute Wall



“ *Walter R. Dean Jr.*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *Bernice Latou lit a candle in memory of Walter R. Dean Jr.*



Bernice Latou - August 13, 2021 at 04:41 PM



“ *I just found out about Walter's passing. I worked with Walter in 1965 when we were employed at the Bureau of Recreation. We were employed as Street Club Workers and Harry Smith was our supervisor. Walter was a very intelligent and hard working person. My condolences go out to his friends and family.*

Dorothy Carmichael Floyd

Dorothy C Floyd - October 05, 2015 at 08:07 PM



“ *Rhonda Young lit a candle in memory of Walter R. Dean Jr.*



Rhonda Young - September 28, 2015 at 11:57 AM

RY

“ I will miss our lively discussions. Professor Dean, was the ultimate debater. He always pushed the envelope and made me think outside of the box. The champion of change for all things Baltimore. Your time on this earth was well spent. You always empowered and enlightened the underdogs. Well done, what a faithful steward. Rest in paradise.

Rhonda Young - September 28, 2015 at 11:56 AM

DH

“ Please accept my condolences on the transition of Walter Dean, a truly great mentor and leader. Harry Smith, his friend and colleague, introduced me to Walter in 2005 during the time that I served as Executive Vice President at BCCC. It was a pleasure getting to know him and understand his powerful impact on the civil rights movement. His laughter, insightful conversations and love for everyone were infectious. While his time in the classroom students was temporary, his impact on a multitude of students was lifelong. May you find comfort in knowing that Walter is treasured. My prayers are with you.

Dr. Joann Horton, Chicago, IL

Dr. Joann Horton - September 28, 2015 at 11:37 AM

FK

“ Francine King lit a candle in memory of Walter R. Dean Jr.



Francine king - September 24, 2015 at 09:54 PM

FK

I would like thank professor walter Dean for teaching me concept of sociology.

Francine king - September 24, 2015 at 09:55 PM

AS

“ I would like to extend my sincere sympathy and condolences to the family of Walter R. Dean, Jr. I received a valuable education while I worked for Mr. Dean for 5 years during the 1970's as secretary in his district office, Urban Affairs Department of the Community College of Baltimore (as it was known back then) and during the Maryland General Assembly. I remember Mr. Dean. I want to extend my love to his sisters, Annette and Janice and family. I will attend his funeral next Wednesday at City Temple Baptist Church. Anne Silbermann

Anne Silbermann - September 23, 2015 at 07:36 AM

RJ

“ Ruth Jackson lit a candle in memory of Walter R. Dean Jr.



Ruth Jackson - September 23, 2015 at 06:06 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 22, 2015 at 11:39 AM