



Mr. Moses L. Walker

October 21, 1940 - January 16, 2020

****PLEASE NOTE---IN LIEU OF FLOWERS, THE FAMILY REQUESTS
SENDING DONATIONS TO THE: DOUGLASS COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION, 1000 W. Paterson Street-Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007
website link: <https://www.dcakalamazoo.com/donate/>

or

THE ECUMENICAL SENIOR CENTER, 702 N. Burdick Street-Kalamazoo,
Michigan 49007
website link: <http://bit.ly/mosesdonation>

****Visitation & Funeral Service Times and Location Listed Below****

Moses Lee Walker was born to Arthur and Erie Walker (who preceded him in death) on October 21, 1940 on the Northside of Kalamazoo, Michigan. He departed this life on January 16, 2020 at Ascension Borgess Hospital. Devoted husband, adoring father and Papa, loving son, caring brother, uncle, nephew, cousin and loyal friend are words that only scratch the surface of Moses. He was a 1958 graduate of Kalamazoo Central High School. After serving 3 years in the US Army, he returned to Kalamazoo in 1964 and completed his undergraduate studies at Western Michigan University. He went on to earn a master's degree in social work from Wayne State University in 1968 and a master's degree in business administration from Western Michigan University in 1990.

Moses was an advocate for the people and had strong ties to his community, especially the Northside. He was passionate and dedicated to ensuring the residents of the Northside had resources to quality healthcare, educational and employment opportunities.

Moses served as the Executive Director of the Douglass Community Association from 1968 to 1978, which in his words, “set him up for success throughout the rest of his career”. He served as the first African American Executive Director and COO of Borgess Mental Health Center and later was promoted to the first African American President & CEO of the DeLano Clinic, VP of Borgess Behavioral Medicine Service and ended his career with Borgess as the first African American VP of Community Relations.

Moses was a driving force in the founding of the Family Health Center and served on the Board since its inception in 1971. In honor of his dedicated service to the organization the building located on the Northside was renamed the Moses L. Walker Building in 2017.

In addition to the Family Health Center Board, Moses was an active Board Member of Integrated Services of Kalamazoo, Southwest Michigan Behavioral Health, Communities in Schools of Kalamazoo and over the years had served on numerous community boards.

He leaves to cherish his memory his devoted wife of 53 years Ruthie; children Tari, Mark and Stacy Walker; grandchildren Jasmine, Navia and Myah Walker; brother Alex Walker; sisters Birda Walker and Stella Dixon; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his siblings Nellie Hurtt, Doris McCoy, Arthur Walker, Tommy Walker and Amos Walker.

Moses Walker was a born leader and dedicated his life to mentoring others to step into their leadership potential. He was a straight shooter, if your dress was off, he told you. If your words were off, he told you, if your thinking was off, he corrected your thinking. Excellence was his expectation and as a result, his legacy will live through the many lives he touched. Moses L. Walker, Kalamazoo's legend of "first".

Cemetery Details

Mount Ever-Rest Memorial Park

3941 S. Westnedge Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI 49008

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN **24**. 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Stones Church (formerly Christian Life Center)
1225 W. Paterson Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

A Service in Loving Memory

JAN **25**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Stones Church (formerly Christian Life Center)
1225 W. Paterson Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Tribute Wall



“ Harper Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker



Harper Funeral Home - January 22, 2020 at 11:53 AM



R.I.P Cuzin 😇

Carmita Bell - March 15, 2020 at 04:56 AM



“ Mr. Moses L. Walker

October 23, 2023 at 06:06 AM



“ Mr. Moses L. Walker

October 06, 2023 at 10:42 AM

BW

“ I really liked Moses-He was my classmate and the last we spoke was at our last reunion and we were talking at The Gull Lake Country Club and I mentioned Billie Mae Bodie and he said Why,she's my cousin,and we reflected about Central High and favorite teachers like Mildred McConkey who always told us truths about where we could improve,etc-things we didn't always want to acknowledge.I was so pleased to read about all of Moses's contributions to our community-as a former student council president I tried to do a lot while I was a student,and afterwards,but looking back,Moses was always a giving and caring person I was proud to know-I will miss him but maybe,at the big reunion above,we'll have some time to continue our conversation! Barbara Bielefeld Winkler 1643 Sophia St,Pittsburgh,Pa 15212

barbara Winkler - June 09, 2020 at 01:55 PM

WT

With all that's going on in the world just sitting down and absorbing these posts. Thanks so much for the kind words and for being a friend to my dad. We miss him very much.

Walker Tari - July 15, 2020 at 07:31 PM

PL

“ Pamela (Ampey) Lyles sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker



Pamela (Ampey) Lyles - March 28, 2020 at 08:24 PM

PL

Moses has always been in all our lives, a part of us as he was a part of Kalamazoo and Kalamazoo was a part of him. He was a pillar and a rock, someone that was there for the greater cause for everyone.

Pam, Ricky & Kimberly

Pamela (Ampey) Lyles - March 28, 2020 at 08:31 PM

CB

“ *Crystal Bell lit a candle in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker*



Crystal bell - February 13, 2020 at 11:43 PM

VB

“ *VICKY Burns lit a candle in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker*



VICKY Burns - February 08, 2020 at 05:40 PM

JW

“ *It was my privilege early in my career to work alongside, and learn from, this remarkable man. His leadership skill, intuition, uncanny ability to assess and motivate people and—not least by any means—his wicked sense of humor set him apart. There were very few like Moses. He leaves a legacy to be proud of.*

Jim Witt - January 29, 2020 at 09:07 PM

WT

Thanks so much for your kind words. He was the best and we miss him very much!

Walker Tari - July 15, 2020 at 07:27 PM

BB

“ *Bari Brown lit a candle in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker*



Bari Brown - January 26, 2020 at 11:05 AM

SH

“ *Sandra Hines lit a candle in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker*



Sandra Hines - January 26, 2020 at 08:18 AM

DM

“ *Prayers to the Walker Family...
Love,
Dorothy & Debra Moon* ❤️❤️



Debra & Dorothy Moon - January 25, 2020 at 06:26 PM

SW

“ Hey Mark,
We just wanted to send our condolences to you and your family at this difficult time. Praying for peace and strength in the days ahead.

Sabrina White and Marques Matthews

Sabrina White - January 25, 2020 at 03:50 PM



KK

“ Keith Knox sends his Thoughts and Prayers to the Walker Family. So Sorry for your loss.

keith knox - January 25, 2020 at 03:05 PM



CO

“ Cheryl Owens-Nebedum lit a candle in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker

Cheryl Owens-Nebedum - January 25, 2020 at 01:20 AM





“ *To Our Family:
Ruthie and children...Tari, Mark, Stacy, and grandchildren.
I have many memories of cousin Moses that I will forever cherish
from growing up as kids to adulthood. Mose was kind, generous,
thoughtful and caring. He extended his helpful abilities to others.
I do truly miss him.
Ruthie, love to you all in Jesus' name.
Elizabeth Ann Stamps*

Margaret Smith - January 24, 2020 at 10:17 PM

KJ

“ *Our condolences go out the the Walker family at this time of
mourning. Know that our prayers and thoughts are with you. Your
cousin's, KelvinD and Dorothy Johnson and Derryk (Priestley).*

Kelvin Johnson - January 24, 2020 at 10:16 PM

MW

“ *Moses was one of my favorite cousins. A very
wise man. He loved people unconditionally. He
came to visit me Christmas Eve (2019). Our
family has lost a jewel. I had no idea that's the
last I would fellowship with him. He will be truly
missed. He definitely was a God given gift to
the Walker Family. We loved Moses and he loved Us.*



Minister Floradel Walker - January 24, 2020 at 10:10 PM

MW

“ *Minister Floradel Walker sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker*



Minister Floradel Walker - January 24, 2020 at 10:01 PM

JR

“ *Sending prayers to Tari and the entire Walker Family from Julia Ruffin & Family in Pontiac, Michigan.*

Julia Ruffin - January 24, 2020 at 12:49 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. Moses L. Walker.*



January 24, 2020 at 12:34 PM

BJ

“ *Buzette Jackson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker*



Buzette Jackson - January 24, 2020 at 11:56 AM

TF

“ Tina Avery And Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker



Tina Avery and Family - January 24, 2020 at 11:27 AM

MF

“ Mattie Fields And Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker



Mattie Fields and Family - January 24, 2020 at 11:06 AM

EF

“ Earline Fields sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker



Earline Fields - January 24, 2020 at 11:05 AM

BM

“ Barbara McPherson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker



Barbara McPherson - January 24, 2020 at 08:56 AM



“ *He was always a very respectful person, God Bless this family to stay strong.* ”



Audrey Rancifer-McGrew - January 23, 2020 at 11:09 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Moses L. Walker.* ”



January 23, 2020 at 02:56 PM



“ *The SPURLOCK FAMILY lit a candle in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker.* ”



Dorothy A Spurlock - January 22, 2020 at 10:55 PM



“ *Elizabeth Stamps & Family* ”



Margaret Smith - January 22, 2020 at 09:08 PM



“ Margaret Smith sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker



Margaret Smith - January 22, 2020 at 09:06 PM



“ To my Walker Family praying for you during your time of sorrow love Jo

Sharon Walker - January 22, 2020 at 06:33 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. Moses L. Walker.



January 22, 2020 at 06:14 PM



“ He always had a moment if you needed one, he expected you to learn from your mistakes, he did it all out of love...thank you Moses, I am forever grateful.

Tracy

Tracy Dawson - January 22, 2020 at 03:22 PM

TF

“ *Tiffany Gardner & Family lit a candle in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker*



Tiffany Gardner & Family - January 22, 2020 at 01:08 PM

PF

“ *PATTERSON FAMILY lit a candle in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker*



PATTERSON FAMILY - January 22, 2020 at 09:11 AM

RW

“ *To the family of Moses, Our deepest condolences in the passing of your husband and father, and may God continue to bless you and his siblings. He was a long time friend and supporter for me.*



RJ & Anita Wilkerson - January 22, 2020 at 08:27 AM

AC

“ *To my family "The Walker's" , may God cover each of you with his love, kindness, and peace. Moses loved his family and we loved him also.*

Alex and Luddie Clan - January 21, 2020 at 09:45 PM

MP

“ *Mollie Peterson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker*



Mollie Peterson - January 21, 2020 at 09:13 PM

TW

“ *Terri Walker lit a candle in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker*



Terri Walker - January 21, 2020 at 09:11 PM

JF

“ *Joel Johnson & family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mr. Moses L. Walker.*



Joel Johnson & family - January 21, 2020 at 02:21 PM

JE

“ *Jeanetta walker*



Jeanetta - January 21, 2020 at 01:51 PM

LE

“ *Lee Johnson Jr*



Lee - January 21, 2020 at 01:50 PM



“ *Uncle Moses was a very dear friend to my dad Michael O. Wilson. They loved each other like brothers. He was so supportive after my father passed. I'm sad that there will be no more cocktails hours at the Radison. Rest well Uncle Moses.*

Pamela Wilson - January 21, 2020 at 01:30 PM

DW

“ *Our sincere condolences to the Walker family. May God continue to strengthen and comfort you during this difficult time. We send our love and blessings.
Earl and Dianne Washington, Wesley Chapel, Fl.*

Dianne Washington - January 21, 2020 at 10:45 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Moses L. Walker.*



January 21, 2020 at 09:47 AM

AW

“ Andrew And Dawn Wilkerson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker



Andrew And Dawn Wilkerson - January 20, 2020 at 11:39 PM

AW

One Of The First Families We Knew And Met When We Moved To Kalamazoo From Mississippi In 1954 At Old Mt. Zion Church At Edwards And Parsons Street We Were Also Neighbors When We Lived On North Edwards St. 1401 Back In The 50'S Great Family-- Moses One Of A Kind--Will Never Be Forgotten

Andrew And Dawn Wilkerson - January 24, 2020 at 11:13 PM

JE

“ To my family the Walkers may GOD cover each of you with his Love , kindness & peace , Moses Loved his family and we Loved him.
Jeanetta Walker & Family

Jeanetta - January 20, 2020 at 10:07 PM

JE

“ Jo Ann Embrey lit a candle in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker



Jo Ann Embrey - January 20, 2020 at 10:06 PM

TH

“ *Condolences to the Walker Family .May God be with you all during the most difficult time....Love The Hollin Family*



Tanya Hollin - January 20, 2020 at 09:49 PM

AW

“ *Angela Word lit a candle in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker*



Angela Word - January 20, 2020 at 09:49 PM

JH

“ *Joan Harris lit a candle in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker*



Joan Harris - January 20, 2020 at 08:46 PM

CB

“ *Carrie Baker lit a candle in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker*



Carrie Baker - January 20, 2020 at 07:50 PM

LB

“ To the family of my neighborhood childhood friend Moses. May time ease the sorrow you feel and leave only loving memories. I never shall forget...

With Deepest Sympathy Mr. & Mrs. Lyle Baker

Lyle Baker - January 20, 2020 at 06:14 PM

LW

“ Lite a candle the memory of Moses L Walker
From Dorrington and McKay Family



Lorraine Dorrington- Weatherspoon - January 20, 2020 at 05:46 PM

DF

“ Debra Harris Fields lit a candle in memory of
Mr. Moses L. Walker



Debra Harris Fields - January 20, 2020 at 05:29 PM

RF

“ Renaford Owens Jr & Family lit a candle in
memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker



Renaford Owens Jr & Family - January 20, 2020 at 05:15 PM

TE

“ I was fortunate to have know Moses well, and privileged to have worked with him in his never ending quest for a better, more equitable Kalamazoo community. He was a true gentleman and I am grateful for the honor of calling him my friend. Nancy and I extend our condolences to his family.

Tom Edmonds, Sheriff, Kalamazoo County, Retired

Tom Edmonds - January 20, 2020 at 01:39 PM

BE

“ Brenda Evans lit a candle in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker



Brenda Evans - January 20, 2020 at 11:42 AM

DB

“ Dallas Blocker lit a candle in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker



Dallas Blocker - January 20, 2020 at 09:31 AM

DS

“ My Condolences to the Walker Family.



Denise Scurry - January 20, 2020 at 07:35 AM

SW

“ To my Walker Family praying for you

Sharon Walker - January 19, 2020 at 09:03 PM

SC

“ You are in my prayers family

Sharon Walker and children - January 19, 2020 at 09:00 PM

JD

“ To the Family of Mr Moses L.Walker you have my Heart felt Condolences may the Most High God bring comfort and peace during you're time of grievance Brother Moses was a great Man and Respected Mentor our Nation of people shall truly miss

Jack Dunigan - January 19, 2020 at 07:06 PM

JD

“ Jack Dunigan sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker



Jack Dunigan - January 19, 2020 at 06:55 PM

JD

“ Jack Dunigan lit a candle in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker



Jack Dunigan - January 19, 2020 at 06:54 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Moses L. Walker.*



January 19, 2020 at 06:07 PM



“ *Toney & Diana Patterson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker*



Toney & Diana Patterson - January 19, 2020 at 04:58 PM



“ *Ruthie and family you have my deepest condolences. You're in my prayers. Because of my Nephew Michael McKinley, I was at The Family Health Center. When Moses was brought blind folded in a black limousine. It was great joy and happiness, when they uncovered the sign to reveal the Moses L. Walker Building. That was a great honor for such a wonderful man, Moses Walker.*



Helen (Mills) Brooks - January 19, 2020 at 03:49 PM

RC

“ *Sending my prayers to the family and may the memories of his legacy bring your comfort!* ”



Rachel Carr - January 19, 2020 at 11:01 AM

FF

“ *Frank & Betty Ford lit a candle in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker* ”



Frank & Betty Ford - January 19, 2020 at 09:33 AM

KD

“ *Kevin Dunigan sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker* ”



Kevin Dunigan - January 19, 2020 at 03:56 AM



“ *Our deepest condolences to your family from the Jackson family.* ”

Kim Jackson - January 18, 2020 at 09:37 PM

CD

“ Charles & Ann Dunigan sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker



Charles & Ann Dunigan - January 18, 2020 at 09:34 PM

TT

“ Tamela Toliver lit a candle in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker



Tamela Toliver - January 18, 2020 at 09:10 PM

DW

“ I have been knowing Mr. Moses Walker and his family since I was in the 3rd grade in elementary in the early 70's. He was an awesome man. Mr. Moses treated all of us kids as if we were his own. He will truly missed. Mr. Moses Walker made such a difference in our neighborhood on Kalamazoo's Northside and for the city of Kalamazoo. It has been such an honor to know such an honorable man. May He Rest In Heaven.

Deborah Woodard - January 18, 2020 at 09:06 PM

AS

“ Alexia Snell lit a candle in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker



Alexia Snell - January 18, 2020 at 08:19 PM

ML

“ *Melinda Lipsey lit a candle in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker*



Melinda Lipsey - January 18, 2020 at 08:18 PM

SS

“ *Soror Stacy..praying you find strength to get this difficult time..being a daddy's girl myself...I know how difficult this can be..lean on family and friend as much as possible and know we are here for you..*

Stephanie Starling - January 18, 2020 at 08:06 PM

KA

“ *Mark sending love and prayers to you during this trying time . I only met your dad once but it was such a great time to be able to meet he and your mom and what a great time it was to talk with them and they were so welcoming and made me feel at home . How blessed you we're to have such an amazing dad who meant so much to so many* ❤️🙏

karen adams - January 18, 2020 at 07:58 PM

PG

“ *Pauline Gardner lit a candle in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker*



Pauline Gardner - January 18, 2020 at 07:48 PM

AR

“ *ArleneBuchanan lit a candle in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker*



ArleneBuchanan - January 18, 2020 at 06:42 PM

CW

“ *Carolyn Walker sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker*



Carolyn Walker - January 18, 2020 at 06:39 PM

JC

“ *Mark, thoughts and prayers for you and your family at this time. I knew your dad at Borgess a very long time ago, he was always a thoughtful and caring man, treating everybody with such respect. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him. He was well known, loved and respected. Again I'm sorry for this loss to your family.*



joan cook - January 18, 2020 at 05:23 PM

NH

“ *Nanette Hickman sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker*



Nanette Hickman - January 18, 2020 at 05:15 PM

DF

“ *Dallas Boards And Family lit a candle in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker*



Dallas Boards and family - January 18, 2020 at 04:12 PM

JH

“ *Jerry Harris lit a candle in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker*



Jerry Harris - January 18, 2020 at 02:00 PM

DS

“ *Ruthie and Family:*

Moses Walker is our Epsilon Xi, Alpha Brother. Art and Moses were instrumental to our struggle to grow our Fraternity at Western Michigan University, during the 1960s. We had a Mutual Destiny. As you know, Moses was always involved with our efforts to maintain contact with W.M.U. Alpha Brothers. Our annual luncheons were opportunities to be reminded of our special relationship. We laughed and joked together about our struggles and good times during our college days and we updated each other regarding our lives after college.

Please know that, like Art, Moses has Alpha Brothers forever. God Bless the Walker Family.

Doug Smith, Epsilon Xi, Alpha Phi Alpha, Founding Brother



Douglas Smith - January 18, 2020 at 09:03 AM

HB

“ *Hal & Janet Buchanan lit a candle in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker*



Hal & Janet Buchanan - January 18, 2020 at 08:43 AM

TF

“ *The Daniel Family lit a candle in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker*



The Daniel Family - January 18, 2020 at 08:42 AM

JE

“ *Jo Ann Embrey lit a candle in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker*



Jo Ann Embrey - January 18, 2020 at 07:49 AM

BE

“ *Ruthie, Tari, Mark, and Stacy, my heart goes out to you and the entire Walker family. Moses was not only a trail blazer and a legend in our community but more importantly he was MY FRIEND and I will miss him. Over the past couple of days I have thought of so many memories I have with Moses and I find myself smiling because that's what Moses did....he made you smile. I pray God brings you solace and peace during this most difficult time.*

Bennie and Ceata Bell

Bell - January 18, 2020 at 04:14 AM

JM

“ *Joyce McDowell lit a candle in memory of Mr. Moses L. Walker*



Joyce McDowell - January 18, 2020 at 12:19 AM