



Gregory K. Walker

August 19, 1946 - August 18, 2021

Gregory "Greg" Kent Walker passed away on August 18, 2021 at the age of 74 in his hometown of Louisville, KY. He is survived by his children Mindy Walker Jett (Darin) and Jill Douglas, his three grandchildren Val, Molly and Dawson Jett, sister Sandy Kurtz (Bill), brother Scott Walker (Cissy), stepbrothers Daryll Powell, Dennis Powell and Rick Powell, longtime girlfriend Diane Beliles and business partner and musician friend of 48 years, Jeanette Kays.

Greg lived out his passion as a musician, making his mark on the Louisville music community as a well-respected jazz guitarist with the band Walker & Kays. He lent his talents to other musicians throughout the city and surrounding areas and was known to be an extraordinary accompanist to any singer he backed up.

When he wasn't making beautiful music, Greg enjoyed fishing, the art of telling a good story or dirty joke, drinking tea (unsweet with 2 Sweet 'n Lows) and spending time with loved ones and friends. Wherever Greg went, it seemed he would run into someone he knew, and if he didn't find a friend he knew, he would make one.

We will be celebrating Greg's life and legacy with a memorial and open mic at Owen Funeral Home in Jeffersontown, 9318 Taylorsville Road, on Monday,

August 30,2021. Visitation will be from 3-5 pm and memorial service will be at 6 pm. As part of the memorial service, we invite anyone who would like to share a story or song for Greg to do so. Feel free to bring instruments and jam in Greg's honor.

Flowers can be sent to Owen Funeral Home or in lieu of flowers, a donation can be made to the Musicians Emergency Resource Foundation, Inc.

Cemetery Details

Cremation was chosen

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 30. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Owen Funeral Homes - Jeffersontown
9318 Taylorsville Road
Louisville, KY 40299
(502) 266-9655
<https://owenfuneralhome.com>

Celebration of Life

AUG 30. 6:00 PM (ET)

Owen Funeral Home-Jeffersontown
9318 Taylorsville Road
Louisville, KY 40299
(502) 266-9655

Tribute Wall

EL

“ I am sorry that I only heard about this nearly a year later. Mr. Walker was a fine man, optimistic in the face of severe illness and committed to soldiering on, no matter how badly he felt. I had all the respect in the world for him as a musician, a human being, and just an amazing characer.

Eleanor Lederer - July 05, 2022 at 09:45 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Gregory K. Walker.



August 30, 2021 at 08:43 AM

GI

“ Gil purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Gregory K. Walker.



Gil - August 27, 2021 at 10:25 AM

RS

“ Please accept my deepest condolences to Greg's family. Whenever I wasn't performing in Louisville clubs and restaurants, I would listen to wherever Greg and Kay were singing around town. I greatly admired his smooth style and tasteful arrangements and borrowed ideas from him often. Most of all, he was supportive of my work and always kind and generous to this kid, also a Waggenerite. I can still hear his wonderful guitar and silky voice when I think about him. May he rest in peace and perform gigs all over heaven. -Rick Sowers

Rick Sowers - August 22, 2021 at 12:44 PM

DP

“ Greg was always ready to help the Peters family whenever we needed him. He leaves behind good memories and feelings.

Dorace Peters - August 21, 2021 at 03:35 PM

 Sandi Dailey

“ So sorry for you loss. The Dailey family

Sandi Dailey - August 21, 2021 at 10:35 AM

RO

“ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RkfWit2IAIU>

Roger - August 21, 2021 at 01:54 AM

DJ

“ 4 files added to the album Memories Album



Darin Jett - August 20, 2021 at 07:26 PM

GC

Graduated with Greg from Waggoner HS, and we both pursued careers in music. What a wonderful person and an even better musician and guitarist! A huge loss for family, friends and music lovers!

Gregory Coin - August 20, 2021 at 08:14 PM

CS

Greg and I met in 1960 and were fast friends united in our love of the guitar. I'll never forget his blonde 335. He taught me some jazz guitar; I encouraged him to sing harmony. My life took me away from Louisville, but, in recent years, during visits, Greg and I connected as if no time had gone by at all. We even got a chance to jam some, and called each other on the phone just to yak, of which Greg was a master. I'm royally pissed I can't call him right now and laugh ourselves silly.

Chuck Smith - August 30, 2021 at 12:37 AM

DJ

“ Greg was the dad I wish I always had for the 25 years I've dated/been married to his daughter.

From the music, vacations with him and Diane, Christmas Eve open houses at his place, him coming over in the evening and eventually falling asleep on our couch, or vacuuming his apartment before the first Christmas Eve open house where I met the family, there isn't a moment I regret with him.

Love and miss you Greg, Darin

Darin Jett - August 20, 2021 at 07:23 PM

AL

“ I feel like I need to write something here on behalf of my dad, Bill. Greg and Dad were friends (brothers, really) for over 30 years. Greg had become a part of our family. I have been watching him play since I was in high school and he was so talented. Not only that, but he was always generous with his time and heart. He had so many many friends, both musical and not in Louisville. He was almost as good a storyteller as he was a musician. And, oh, those terrible jokes. He would tell the worst jokes and laugh and smile. I miss that. The last time I saw him was at my dad's funeral last year. He felt like he had to play him out. He and I carefully chose just the right songs and Greg gathered a trio of musicians and, with tears in his eyes, gave him the best send-off imaginable. I am forever grateful for this. I wish his kids and Diane and Jeanette the very best, knowing that they will never find another like him. He (and his music) will be missed.

Alisa - August 20, 2021 at 01:47 PM

TS

“ How blessed our community has been to have known Greg, whose many gifts touched so many people. Always ready to help others while wearing a smile, Greg was so much more than just a splendid musician & singer.

Thankfully Greg left countless indelible memories, some recorded, but so many others from his personal interactions with us. While he'll be missed, all who knew him carry these & will continue to cherish his memory.

I feel so fortunate to have had the opportunity to visit with him in June at Turley's 80th Birthday. Truly he was a gentle soul, an example of life well lived.

With loving respect,
Tom Sobel.



Tom Sobel - August 20, 2021 at 12:34 PM

WD

“ How do you say goodbye to a Gentleman of His Stature ?? We were great friends, met him in 1981,, Developed a staunch friendship that grew forever. He was a very sincere guy, loved people, music, good food, playing the guitar. He was Louisville's best kept secret as a guitarist. He himself never realized how talented he truly was.. Humble and caring he was,, loved people.. There is just so much uto this man,, the friends he had and the lives he touched,, plus the lives that touched him.. I will truly miss him,, but never forget him. That "happy to see you smile" that made you smile,, the extended handshake,, His grateful heart and his voice of music,,, the every so special touch on the guitar,, the notes and chords always in the right place.. He left his mark on me as the many of you also.. We are better people for knowing Greg Walker, for his friendship truly touched our Souls.. Until we meet again my friend,,, Alex Dunn

WILSON A. DUNN - August 20, 2021 at 11:28 AM