



Mrs. Grace von Ehrenkrook Walker

December 27, 1928 - November 19, 2013

Grace von Ehrenkrook Walker died peacefully November 19, 2013 at the Brooks-Howell Home. Born in 1927 in Denver, Colorado, she was preceded in death by her parents, Bill and Louise von Ehrenkrook; her brother, Hurley von Ehrenkrook and her son, Philip (Pete) Walker, Jr. She is survived by her husband of 56 years, Dr. Philip A. Walker (Professor Emeritus at UNC-Asheville); her children Kelly Paul Walker (Bryson), Elaine Potter (Annika), and Jenny Louise Davids (Scott) and her grandchildren Taylor, Betty, Maggie and Wesley Walker; John, Bobby, and Peter Davids; and William and Nathaniel Potter. She often said her family was her greatest treasure, and this certainly would include her in-laws, nieces, nephews and their families.

She was graduated with an AA at Colorado Woman's College, in December (1948), a BS at the University of Colorado (1950), and an MS at the University of Southern Mississippi (1955). She taught at the University of Southern Mississippi (1954-1957) where she met her professor husband. She also taught at William Carey College in Hattiesburg, MS (1957-1958).

In Asheville, she organized and led the Newfound Swim and Fitness program (1972-1980) and was Program and Pool Director of the YWCA (1980-1993). The remainder of her career was centered around a business she created called "Travel with Grace" in which she organized and led bus tours to fabulous destinations. She was active in the American Association of

University Women (AAUW, President 1994) and the Western Carolina Women's Coalition. She was an active member of Grace Episcopal Church, where she served on the vestry, among other things. She also served on the board of the Chamber Music Series. She devoted much of the time she had left (from jobs and raising a family) to tennis and bridge, in both of which she was an enthusiastic participant.

The family is extremely grateful to CarePartners/Hospice and the Brooks-Howell Home for the excellent care they gave Grace these last few months.

A Celebration of A Life Well Lived service will be held on Saturday, December 7 at 11:30 am at Grace Episcopal Church on Merrimon Avenue. A reception will follow in the parish hall.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to the Grace Episcopal Church Endowment Fund, c/o Grace Church, 871 Merrimon Ave, Asheville, NC 28804.

Cemetery Details

Private

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

DEC 7. 11:30 AM (ET)

Grace Episcopal Church
871 Merrimon Avenue
Asheville, NC 28804
graceparish@bellsouth.net
<http://graceepiscopalchurch.us/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Grace von Ehrenkrook Walker*

October 07, 2023 at 11:15 AM



“ *ELLEN VAIL lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Grace von Ehrenkrook Walker*



ELLEN VAIL - December 08, 2013 at 10:15 AM



“ *Elaine's Reflection at the Memorial was priceless !!! However, at the risk of sounding redundant, I will add that Aunt Gracie will always be remembered by me as a hoot, a holler, and a kick in the pants to anyone who wasn't living life to the fullest. Fortunately, that joie de vivre lives on her children and grandchildren.
California Cousin Peter von Ehrenkrook*

Peter von Ehrenkrook - December 07, 2013 at 07:56 PM



“ *Biil And Helen Brigman lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Grace von Ehrenkrook Walker*



Biil and Helen Brigman - December 06, 2013 at 08:08 PM

CH

“ Every time I hear the word Hustle in any context I smile and automatically think of Mrs. Walker. I was so proud when I started Kindergarten and they were going to teach us a "new" dance...The Hustle, I already new it. There was never idle time at the Walkers if you sat down on the couch it was not for long...you were soon playing a game or learning a new dance. I thank her for all of the things she did for us like taking us to the Newfound pool to learn to swim. I am just realizing what an impact she and the whole Walker family, had on me. I echo the words of my sister, Sarah "Sis" Hudson in saying that she was truly a mother to the neighborhood.

Charlie Hudson

Charles Hudson - December 06, 2013 at 06:53 PM

BM

“ Mrs. Walker and her family were kind, caring and fun neighbors all the years we lived across from them on Northwood Road. Lots of fun times and memories.

And I always enjoyed the ballroom dance classes she taught in middle school and junior high!

We'll miss her.

Bryan Marshall

Bryan Marshall - December 05, 2013 at 07:44 PM

IA

“ We will miss her hearty laugh and warm smile. A bright light has left us but fond memories and her good works remain. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Walker family. Grace was indeed filled with grace and so much love. Tom and Ingrid Adelsbach

Ingrid Adelsbach - December 05, 2013 at 07:13 PM

CE

“ To all of the Walker family,
Our Condolences.
Grace was a wonderful person. We will miss her humor, unlimited energy and always her positive attitude towards life. We will all miss her.
Chris, Cathy, Heather and Brandon von Ehrenkrook

Chris von Ehrenkrook - December 01, 2013 at 05:25 PM

MA

“ Hello Walker Family,
I was excited to go on several "Travels with Grace" trips from ECW, St. Pauls Monroe.
Loved your Mom, her zest for life was amazing. I am are certain that she will be missed by all who knew her. But now, she surely has a place in heaven!
Margaret Allred

Margaret Allred - November 29, 2013 at 10:04 AM

CD

“ Will see you at the Celebration of Grace's life. She will be missed by so very many. She was the first person to hire me in Asheville. What a dynamic woman and superb wife and mother. Look forward to sharing beautiful memories with you-----plus the great times we all had on Northwood.

Cynthia Corley (aka Diamond)

Cynthia Corley (aka Diamond) - November 25, 2013 at 11:55 AM

EH

“ To the Walker Family...I had the privilege of working with Grace at Travel Professionals in coordinating her motorcoach transportation on her many trips. She was a gracious lady and a true joy to work with. Her presence will be greatly missed. She leaves behind many great memories.

Elaine Hines

Elaine Hines - November 25, 2013 at 08:58 AM

PS

I KNEW GRACE THROUGH AAUW AND I ALSO ENJOYED SEVERAL OF HER TRIPS. MY CONDOLENCES TO HER FAMILY. PHYLLIS STOUT BREVARD, NC

PHYLLIS I. STOUT - December 05, 2013 at 10:45 PM

JD

“ I only have great memories of Mrs. Walker. She made those neighborhood block parties the biggest event of the year on Northwood Rd. I smile just thinking about 50 people doing the Spanish Hustle while she DJ'ed the whole party! Fun days at the Allen Center or Christmas party skits in the livingroom, I hope the whole family realizes how many great childhood memories I have because of her and the rest of you all. I will miss her alot, Jeff Diamond

Jeff Diamond - November 24, 2013 at 12:14 PM

LG

“ Dear Phil and family: Please accept my sincere condolences on Grace's passing. She had a good sense of humor and enjoyed playing tennis with her, Dot Mulder and Marie Brown when we moved to Asheville in '95. I also went on trips to Abbingdon, VA, Greenville and Charlotte for plays and shows. May she rest in peace.

Lisette de Groot

Lisette de Groot - November 23, 2013 at 04:14 PM

CH

“ I am so, so sorry. I loved her sense of humor and her energy! She opened up her house to all of the kids in the neighborhood! She put up with me coming to her house ALL OF THE TIME...she taught me how to ride a bike and how to do "The Bump"...she had awesome parties on Christmas Eve...and she was the matriarch to one of my all time favorite families! I love all of the Walkers and m sending my love and prayers.

Carol LedBetter Holder - November 23, 2013 at 09:07 AM

WE

“ With love & sincer symapthy, Nancy & William (Willie) Greene

William E.Greene - November 22, 2013 at 04:01 PM

BH

“ *William Carey University is saddened by the death of Mrs. Walker who taught Physical Education at our school in 1957-58. The smile on her face in the photo is a good indicator of the joy that she shared with others in life. May your faith and cherished memories sustain you in this time of grief.*

Barbara Hamilton

Executive Assistant to the President

William Carey University

Barbara Hamilton - November 22, 2013 at 02:18 PM

LK

“ *Phil, I'm so sorry to read about Grace's death! I have fond memories of her - from the tennis courts, a trip to Charleston, and a visit to your home when you introduced us to our first Mint Juleps. We played tennis with the Round Robin group for a number of years. I also enjoyed a couple of doubles matches with you, Bud Walker, and Grace. She was a good friend who will be missed.*

Lucy Keil

Lucy Keil - November 22, 2013 at 12:16 PM

JD

What a wonderful lady with an absolutely unique attitude toward life and such a great personality.. Our son was enrolled in her Tennis and rafting programs back in the 80's. She was so well educated and presented a bright outlook and energy to all she came in contact with. We would like to share our condolences to the entire family --

Jerry and Barbara Deal - December 06, 2013 at 07:37 AM

TM

“ Jenny - I'm so sad to hear about your mom. It sounds like she led a wonderfully full life and she was no doubt very proud of you. Todd McKee

Todd McKee - November 22, 2013 at 07:52 AM

MC

“ Phil, I will never forget all the meaningful hours shared in your beautiful home. Grace was a consummate and gracious hostess to so many of your university colleagues and friends. I am glad we had that last luncheon together. She was always such a source of strength to all around her.

Thank you,
Mechthild & Philip

Mechthild Cranston - November 21, 2013 at 09:08 PM

JI

“ May Grace Understanding Peace be with you and your family at this time. You are all in my prayers.
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James R. Goode II - November 21, 2013 at 09:03 PM

KR

“ Jenny, I'm sorry to hear about the loss of your mother. My prayers go out to you and your family.

Kristal Oglesby

Kris - November 21, 2013 at 07:35 PM

KH


“ Jenny, sending my sincerest condolences to you and your family -
Kim Goodwin Henderson

Kim Goodwin Henderson - November 21, 2013 at 07:34 PM

BL

“ To all the Walker Clan~
What a wonderful, full life your Mama had. Grace lived her name....She was always looking at the glass as half full...no, wait....three quarters full. She was ready to share a laugh anytime. I know you will all miss her but she certainly is living on in each of you. Much, much love~ Becky LedBetter

Becky LedBetter - November 21, 2013 at 05:58 PM

 Nancy Adams

“ Dr. Walker, I am so very sorry for your loss. I have good memories of UNCA History Association trips with Grace. You and your whole family are in our thoughts and prayers.
Nancy (Skinner) and John Adams, Rachel and Sarah

Nancy Adams - November 21, 2013 at 12:51 PM

SH

“ To all the Walkers: I am so sorry for your loss in the passing of Grace. She was my neighborhood mom, and the neighborhood mom of many others. I have so many fond memories of spending time in the family room and your mom getting us off the couch and dancing the Alley Cat. Also of her making a community out of the neighborhood by organizing block parties. She certainly made our world a better place. Love Sarah "Sis" Hudson

Sarah Hudson - November 21, 2013 at 09:49 AM

CH

Amen Sarah

Carol LedBetter Holder - November 23, 2013 at 09:09 AM

CR

“ *Dear Elaine and family,*

Katelin and I are so sorry to hear of the loss of your momma, Grace. She was a beautiful woman and was loved by many. Elaine and Annika, you both did such a wonderful job taking care of Elaine's mom and still taking care of her dad. When Katelin and I were at your home, Katelin made the comment that she hoped to find a husband one day that was as wonderful as your dad was to your mom. You are all in our prayers and thoughts. May you find comfort in your memories and may God bring your heart peace. We are here, just a phone call away, if you need us. We love you. Katelin and Charlie Reed

Charlie Reed - November 21, 2013 at 08:48 AM

AN

“ *I am so sorry for your loss. The Bible provides comfort during these difficult times. Revelation 21:3-4 states, And he will wipe out every tear from their eyes, and death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore. The former things have passed away. Very soon now, we will never experience losing our loved ones in death. Hope these words give you a new hope.*

Ana - November 20, 2013 at 06:48 AM

AZ

Jenny, our thoughts & prayers are with you and your family. may her memory be eternal. Chris & Andrea Zourzoukis (Anthoula's parents).

Andrea Zourzoukis - November 22, 2013 at 04:13 PM