



Dale Patrick Walker

July 27, 1946 - August 8, 2021

On Sunday, August 8, 2021, Dale Patrick Walker, loving husband of Cheryl, father of four, grandfather, great grandfather, former farmer, and Grant PUD Commissioner, passed away at the age of 75.

Dale was born in Oceanside, California, to Ray and Helen Walker. The family moved to Moses Lake, Washington, in 1954 to farm as part of the Columbia Basin Irrigation Project. There his parents built their farm along the O'Sullivan Reservoir where Dale grew up raising livestock, gardening, being a member of the 4-H club and FFA, as well as hunting, and racing cars. He graduated from Moses Lake High School in 1964, and then attended Big Bend Community College. In 1966, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and served as an Armor Intel Specialist for two years, working on the M551 Sheridan tank. He returned to the Columbia Basin to begin farming on his own and married his beloved wife, Cheryl, in 1974.

Dale grew many crops but specialized in wheat, owned his own seed company, and developed two varieties of wheat: Basin and Cashup. Later he worked as manager of the Golden Corral restaurant, and managed a satellite horse racing site at other restaurants in Moses Lake.

Over the years he has pursued many hobbies including shooting pool, competing in blackjack tournaments, restoring vintage Corvettes, and golfing.

Dale has been active in the community all of his life in many clubs and organizations, including Rotary, the Moses Lake RoundUp, and the Washington State Potato Commission.

In 2010, Dale was elected as a commissioner for the Grant PUD, to serve in the Second District. As PUD commissioner, he also served on the boards of several state and regional electric industry organizations. Dale was instrumental in leading Grant PUD through a time of significant growth and development. He was a major proponent of the utility's current initiative to extend fiber-optic service throughout the county and of developing financial policy that would pay down debt while keeping power rates low. He strived to ensure that all Grant PUD customers benefited from the tremendous growth in Grant County.

Dale was preceded in death by his parents, Ray and Helen Walker.

He is survived by his wife Cheryl; son Phillip Walker and his wife Kathleen; son Rodney Walker and his wife Nicole; son Ronny Walker; and daughter Emily Burke and her husband Todd; grandchildren Erin, Andy, Patrick, Christopher, Luke, Zachary, Mindy, Hannah, Josiah, Jared, Bailey, Izabelle, Annika, Oliver, and Magnolia; and great grandchildren Jaymeson, Kolbee, Arie, Syllas, and Dawson; and his siblings Charlotte Maletz, Priscilla Walsh, Lee Walker, and Gary Walker; and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, August 13, 2021, at Kayser's Chapel of Memories, in Moses Lake at 1:00 pm. The service will be available to watch on Facebook live at <https://www.facebook.com/Kaysers-Chapel-of-Memories-104201534614825> Please express your thoughts and memories for the family at www.kayserschapel.com

Previous Events

Memorial Service

AUG 13. 1:00 PM (PT)

Kayser's Chapel of Memories
831 S. Pioneer Way
Moses Lake, WA

Tribute Wall

SL

“ *I never met you but never gave up hope that some day we'd meet. Meet you on the other side! I love you Dad*

Shauna Lindo - November 05, 2023 at 12:13 AM

JT

“ *My sympathy to Cheryl and all the Walker siblings. Dale's death has brought back so many fond memories of growing up as a farm kid in Block 42. Dale was a good kid then and by all the tributes turned out to be a good caring adult. Jennifer Elder (now Trupp)*

Jennifer Elder Trupp - August 15, 2021 at 11:33 AM

MJ

“ *The service was a wonderful tribute to Dale. I watched from home. Thanks to the family for making it possible to be there in spirit.*

Mary Ann Johnson - August 13, 2021 at 05:20 PM

MJ

“ *For several years Bill and I went to Reno with Dale and Cheryl. We'd spend a week there so packing for a week for four and getting it all in the trunk was a challenge. Dale always teased me about how much luggage we could have and when they picked us up he'd say I don't want any talking or back seat driving outta you. We love Dale and Cheryl, best friends forever.*

Mary Ann Johnson - August 13, 2021 at 05:16 PM

KM

“ Cheryl
We were saddened to hear about Dale, we are sending our prayers
and Love
Sue Nuckolls Stewart, Katherine McKay Molyneux

Katherine McKay - August 13, 2021 at 10:12 AM

KV

“ Our hearts go out to Cheryl and the family.
May you all be blessed with memories of Dale
to keep in your hearts. Jim & Kathy
Vickerman



Kathy Vickerman - August 12, 2021 at 06:41 PM

CK

“ Dear Cheryl and family; How do you say Goodbye to a man who
has led his family with grace, dignity, and humor for so many years?
It is impossible! To his family and friends, his words of wisdom and
quick wit will live on through them. So it is never Goodbye, simply
see you soon. Dale wore a winning smile-he was talented, smart,
and will be missed by all who were lucky to have known him. We
are sorry to miss Dale's service. We had to be out of town, Our
thoughts and prayers are with you all. Cathy & Paul Kersey

Cathy Kersey - August 12, 2021 at 05:23 PM

JP

“ Dale was my good friend Lee Walker's older brother. I always looked up to Dale, he treated me well. I remember admiring his hot rod when I was at their home one day. I was surprised and overjoyed when he said " Come on, let's go for a ride." And we did go for a wild ride, around and around their 1/3 mile circular driveway, probably set a record! The Walker's and Plaisted's go way back. Great family! John Plaisted

John Plaisted - August 12, 2021 at 11:40 AM

EM

John, I'm going to share a photo of what I believe is the hot rod you are mentioning. I hope you will get to see it. ~Emily, Dale's daughter

Emily - August 12, 2021 at 10:59 PM

BL

“ Thank you Dale and Cheryl for making these transplants from West Virginia part of your wonderful family. Since 1990 we have spent lots of good times together. Dale you were one of a kind. You will be so missed. Rest in peace our friend. Cheryl and the rest of the Walker family you are all in our prayers. We love you all. Bev and David.

Bev Lane - August 11, 2021 at 07:14 PM

DC

“ I only had a chance to know Dale for a few years as a Commissioner but always appreciated his positive demeanor and support for the PUD and employees. I also appreciated his direct manner. Dale was one of those guys that would look you straight in the eye and tell you he disagreed with you but did it with a mischievous smile and sparkle in his eye that let you know he was still your friend. You always knew where Dale stood on things and that was an attribute that made him a good commissioner.. It's a hard job to be a PUD commissioner and I have great respect for Dale and others that step up and take on the responsibility in service of their community. My heart goes out to his friends and family in this tough time. I only saw Dale during PUD business but that was enough to see that he was a great husband, friend, father, and grandfather and to know that he'll be greatly missed by all.

Dave Churchman

Dave Churchman - August 11, 2021 at 04:56 PM

LD

“ Dale was such a nice gentleman, so pleasant and with a nice smile. I will miss not seeing him at GPUD. Prayers and hugs to the Walker family. *Lori Davis*

Lori Davis - August 11, 2021 at 04:04 PM

JL

“ I will greatly miss Dale's bright smile and forthright approach. He supported Grant PUD's recreation and shoreline programs and genuinely cared for the staff in charge of implementing them. Whenever I was around Dale, whether at a Grant PUD Commission meeting or on a Priest Rapids Project field visit, he never failed to take time to talk to me. My thoughts and prayers are with Dale's friends and family.

Shannon Lowry

J. Shannon Lowry - August 11, 2021 at 11:13 AM

BO

“ Dale was a strong advocate for the PUD- both for the customers and employees. I will miss his kind words and thoughtfulness in his role as a Commissioner. On a personal note, Dale was very supportive and encouraging - always friendly and welcoming in whatever setting he was in. Sending thoughts and prayers to family and friends.

Bonnie Overfield - August 11, 2021 at 10:16 AM

CA

“ I will always remember Dale's smile and laugh and how much he encouraged me and other Grant PUD workers to give our best to our customers. He was very quick to give a hearty, "Good Job!" whenever he approved of how we were doing our business in the Public Affairs Department. I'm especially going to miss Dale next week during the Grant County Fair. Dale loved the fair and he loved seeing Grant PUD have a large presence at the fair so we could connect with our customers. I'm praying for God's blessing for Cheryl and their family.

Sincerely,
Chuck Allen

Chuck Allen - August 10, 2021 at 03:26 PM