



Dwight Rider Walton,, Jr.

December 28, 1946 - July 21, 2013

Dwight Rider Walton Jr., of Searcy, died Sunday, July 21, at the age of 66. Known to his family as "Sonny," Dwight was born in Sugarland, Texas, December 28, 1946, but grew up in Hope, Ark. He was the son of Dwight Rider Walton Sr. and Doris Laverne Martin Walton, who preceded him in death.

Dwight was a graduate of Hope High School and Nicholls State University. He also attended Henderson State University. He received the bachelor of science degree from the College of Business Administration at Nicholls State. He was a member of the 39th Infantry Brigade of the Arkansas National Guard in the 60s.

In 1969, Dwight married Leah Chitty, who survives him. Survivors also include a son, Kelly, and his wife, Terri, of Cabot, Ark., and a daughter, Denise Gall, and her husband, Allen, of Georgetown, Texas. Grandchildren Austin and Jackson Walton, and Elyssa and Jessie Gall also survive.

Other survivors are his sisters – Ann Neill of Hope; Becky (Larry) Meek of San Antonio; and Hannah Adams of Ragley, La.; and his brothers – John Roy and Chris (Edessa) of Hope. He was preceded in death by his brother, Kenneth. Visitation will be tonight (Tuesday) from 6 to 8 p.m. at Powell Funeral Home. The memorial service will be Wednesday at 10 a.m. at the College Church of Christ. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations be made to Harding University Student Scholarship fund, Attn; Jim Carr, P.O. Box 12244, Searcy, Arkansas 72149.

Tribute Wall

DH

“ *I always remember and will miss his friendly smile. So saddened by your loss. You all are in my thoughts and prayers.* ”

Donna Helms - February 10, 2016 at 03:19 PM

TP

“ *My deepest sympathy to the entire family for the lose of this good man. God give you strength and courage for the coming days. My love and prayers. Treva* ”

Treva Pryor - February 10, 2016 at 03:19 PM

DD

“ *So sorry to hear of your loss! My prayers are with the family for comfort and peace in the days ahead.* ”

Denise Miller Dorriety - February 10, 2016 at 03:19 PM

MM

“ *Our Prayers go out to the Family.* ”

Mike Marcum - February 10, 2016 at 03:19 PM

CA

“ *So sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you at this time.* ”

Connie Allen - February 10, 2016 at 03:19 PM

JH

“ I have many memories of Sonny, as I knew him in Hope. I did honor his wish for me to call him Dwight when we all lived in Searcy together. Sonny did always have that wonderful smile. He would just light up a room. I remember him playing "Santa" at College Church one year. Leah, you know that I have walked in your shoes. If you ever need to talk, please call me any time. Kelly, I want you to know I remember having you in class, and that I am praying for you now. I love you all and will be praying for all of you in the days and weeks ahead.

Jennifer Rhodes Hurd - February 10, 2016 at 03:19 PM

SE

“ Praying God's strong arms of comfort will continue to bring you all the peace that passes all understanding during such a great loss. We love you!

Stephen & Lisa Edelhuber - February 10, 2016 at 03:19 PM

“Dad, we did not always see eye to eye, but that was because we often would see something we did not like in ourselves in the mirror that was the other. That being said, you were my greatest teacher. You taught me to be the independant woman I am today. You best lessons you taught me were Never take No for an answer, Never be afraid to ask, If you don't know what you are doing, fake it till you make it, Stand up for what you believe, Always do the right thing even if other are not, and my favorite (and most effective I have found) Do not "ask" how are you going to help me fix this situation you created. Instead, TELL them this is how you are going to fix this situation for me to insure my complete satitisdiction and then take names and let their bosses and on up the chain what the person did for you. Good work always deserves praise. My two favorite memories of you are riding in the car with you and Mom and having a political or religious discussion and I began to whole heartedly disagree with you. You turned around in your seat and said declared, "I don't think I taught you to speak to me that way?" I immediatly retored with "Well you obviously did because I am!" I though Mom was going to fall out of the car laughing, My second was my wedding day. We were heading to the chapel in full Ren Faire gear in the carriage and I could tell you were fighting tears so being our daughter and snuggled into your side and and because asking you to recall the day of my birth. In detail. Asking you how you imaged my future life, whom I would marry, eventually walking me down the isle, etc. Really dragging it out. Just as you were about to completely loose it, I asked, "In all those thoughts, did you ever dream it would be anything like this?" I am surprised you did not give yourself whiplash as you spun around and annouced "I DON'T THINK SO!" You got me back though. A second before we took the first step down the isle, you stopped me and said, "Denise, I have just one thing to say." Immediately I though, Dad, if you say something stupid right now I will leave your butt here and walk myself down this isle. You said "Baby, I love you!" All I could think was Dang it Dad! I was determined not to cry and now I am bawling! Those memories along with the Christmas morning you woke me up at 4 am and told me to put my elf costume on that we were breaking

into the Eason's house to play Santa and any number of pranks that I was your side kick for that I just did not question are the memories I have always and will always carry in my heart. Oh, and by the way Dad, the time that we taped the firecracker to your office door on a Sunday morning that about gave you a heart attack, Kelly did the actual taping, but it was my idea. Just thought I would finally confess. I love you! I miss you! I don't miss and will never miss "GET OUT OF THAT BED" from a sound sleep. I do occasionally "Ffffiivvvveeeee minutes" with my family though. Thank you for being my Dad!

Denise Gall - February 10, 2016 at 03:19 PM

DH

“ Leah, Kelly and Denice

Im so upset by what I learned about my friend , My thoughts and prayers are for the three of you. I wish I had known before now.

We had talked just a few days before while he was in OKC. Never let on about anything . Dwight You were like my brother, I'll miss you always your friend Doug

Douglas Harper - February 10, 2016 at 03:19 PM

DL

“ *The friends here at the Doublebees-Quiznos will miss the great smile that we see every morning on the friend face of a great man. The family is in our prayers.*

Donene Levine - July 23, 2013 at 12:00 AM