



## Donnie Walker

April 18, 1940 - August 23, 2013

Donald Lewis Walker, 73, died Friday, August 23, 2013, from complications of heart disease. Donnie was born April 18, 1940, to Mrs. and Mrs. Herrin Walker in Biloxi, Mississippi. Donnie grew up in Gulfport, MS and later moved to Laurel, where he graduated from Laurel High School in 1958. He attended college at Ole Miss, where he was a 3-year letterman and #1 singles player on the tennis team. He won an SEC Doubles Championship as a senior in 1962 and continued to enjoy the sport throughout his adult life. He was honored by being selected to the Mississippi Tennis Hall of Fame in 2008. After college, Donnie returned to Laurel to coach at his alma mater and then spent the majority of his career with Allstate Insurance. He retired in 2000 and enjoyed spending many weekends in Oxford cheering on his Rebels. He was a faithful member of First Baptist Church of Laurel, where he served as a deacon and on various committees. He loved his church, his family and his many, many friends.

Donnie is survived by his loving wife of 48 years, Sue; his two sons, Scott (Anne) of Memphis, TN and Michael (Alice) of Gulfport, MS; his seven grandchildren, Will, Margaret, Sally, Neely Alice, Rhodes, Eli, and Smith; his brothers, Gerald (Janice) of Oxford, MS and Glenn (Cindy) of Brandon, MS; and a host of nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be 1:00-3:00 p.m. Sunday, August 25th with the funeral service following at 3:00 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Laurel, MS. Burial to follow at Lake Park Hills Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be sent in his memory to First Baptist Church of Laurel: P.O. Box 2636, Laurel, MS 39442

# Tribute Wall

JW

“ Dear Sue, I'm so sorry to hear about Donnie. He was such a fine man and will be greatly missed. He used to be my insurance agent, and of course, I knew him from church. God Bless!

Jo Ann Warren - September 02, 2013 at 10:22 AM

CW

“ I was so very sorry to hear about Coach Walker's passing. It's been a very long time since I've seen you (next door neighbor and babysitter on 20th Street - LONG time ago). I pray for God's peace, comfort, strength and healing for all of you at this time.

Courtney Winchester - August 29, 2013 at 10:29 PM

JM

“ Dearest Sue, Michael, and Scott,  
So terribly sorry for your loss. I always admired you as individuals and for being such a sweet, Christian family. May God give you and all of your loved ones peace, strength, and healing beyond all earthly understanding. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Remembering you all and your sweet husband and Dad. And that great face of Donnie's always so easy to smile.  
Love, The McCool Mills

Jackie McCool Mills - August 29, 2013 at 03:50 PM

CR

“ We were so sorry to hear about Donnie going to be with the Lord. He was a fine man and good person to know. Please know our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this time. Terry and Carol Quam Rowell

Carol Quam Rowell - August 27, 2013 at 09:41 PM

ER

“ Sue and family...I am deeply saddened by your loss of Coach Walker. He was such a great person, great neighbor to the Yoder family and just a great teacher and example for those of us who grew up with him as our coach or PE teacher. You two were such a cute couple and I have always heard wonderful things about your boys from Debbie and Dick. Sue, I send you lots of hugs as you begin this journey without him with you or beside you on this earth. It is just amazing how much you miss your spouse, but I know indeed God has blessed you to have him all these years and he has left a living legacy in these grandchildren. I am thinking about you and pray for your peace in his passing. My mother would tell you that life is not always as we wish it to be...but it is great because of the people who are in our lives. She felt that way about you and I know many felt or feel that way about Donnie. I send my deepest sympathies. Eva Thomas Russell

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**Eva Thomas Russell** - August 27, 2013 at 06:22 PM

SB

“ Sue, Michael and Scott, What an awesome tribute to Donnie. Everything brought honor and glory to Christ and Donnie's life and legacy of faith.  
Love and constant prayers, Sharon

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**Sharon Barham** - August 26, 2013 at 05:15 PM

MH

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this very difficult time.

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**Mark Herrington** - August 26, 2013 at 11:27 AM

DG

“ To the Walker Family, we are so sorry to hear about Mr. Donnie. He was a Gentleman. I played Tennis with him and He did more good for people like me than you know. He was all ways kind and very good on the Courts. I played with him at Daphine park and at LHS. He will be sorely missed. We will be praying for your Family  
The Gwin Family Dan, Diane and Jason Gwin

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**Dan Gwin** - August 25, 2013 at 09:02 PM

JJ

“ Donnie my friend, the first time I ever met you was at Stone Deavours elementary and you were busy being a 6th grade gentleman. You were one of the kindest and most gentle people I have ever known. I Pray that God be with you and yours.. God Bless.. Jerry..

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**Jerry Jones** - August 25, 2013 at 08:52 PM

BS

“ What a man. Privileged to have known him for practically my whole life. Played with him and/or against him in more tennis tournaments than I can count. A gentleman, a sportsman...one of the finest men I've ever known. Will miss you Donnie.

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**Bob Stevens** - August 25, 2013 at 12:25 PM

LP

“ Sending our love, prayers, and sympathy. We are so sorry for your loss.  
Jim and Leslie Provost

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**Leslie Provost/ Jim Provost** - August 25, 2013 at 11:09 AM

MC

“ It was such a pleasure and an honor to know Donnie. He was a young teacher at Watkin's when I first met him. He was an excellent teacher and great encourager. Later, he was our insurance agent. His fine Christian character was always evident. He will not be forgotten. I will keep his family in my thoughts and prayers.

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**Mary Carter** - August 24, 2013 at 04:14 PM

LJ

“ Sending my love and prayers to you and your family, asking our Lord to give you His peace and strength. Mr. Donnie always demonstrated a gracious, gentle Christian witness. I am blessed by knowing you and him.

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**Libby (Johnson) Jones** - August 24, 2013 at 04:03 PM

BC

“ Dear Mrs Sue and family, we are very sorry to hear of your loss. Know you and your family will be in our thoughts and prayers. Mr Donnie was a very sweet man. Bryan and Debbie Compton.

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**Bryan and Debbie Compton** - August 24, 2013 at 03:28 PM

AB

“ So sorry for your loss. Praying that God will give you the peace and comfort only He can give. Donnie was a special loving person, you have many happy memories to remember him. God Bless you and your family.

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**Amy Busby** - August 24, 2013 at 12:16 PM

SD

“ *My prayers are with you. Donnie was such a great and gracious man. It was a privilege and honor to know him and enjoy time on the courts with him. Love to all.*

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**sandra dechert** - August 24, 2013 at 09:10 AM