



## Lafayette Walter

September 12, 1930 - March 12, 2017

Marquis de Lafayette Walter (Lafe), 86, of Ashland, Kentucky passed away at the Hospice Community Care Center in Ashland on March 12, 2017 after a long illness.

Lafe was born to the late Lawson Wadsworth and Thelma Lora Chandler Walter on September 12, 1930, in Beaver, Ohio. In 1946, at the age of 15, he joined the United States Army where he was a Private assigned to the 711th Airborne Ordnance Maintenance Company and trained as a parachutist. He served in Japan post-war. He received an Honorable Discharge in 1947 where he received two service medals, the World War II Victory Medal and the Army of Occupation Medal. After the war, Lafe returned to school and graduated in 1949 from Ashland High School where he was active in Tomcat sports. He later received his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Marshall University and his Master's Degree from Morehead State University. In 1956, Lafe started his career at Fairview High School teaching Art and was an assistant coach before moving to Tampa, Florida in 1958 where he continued teaching and was a coach at Adams Junior High School. In 1966, he returned to Fairview High School for one year before he accepted a position at Russell High School where he taught health and physical education and began coaching the Russell Red Devils. He later held the position of Athletic Director at Russell until his retirement in 1988. He is in both the Fairview and Russell Hall of Fame. Lafe was a Kentucky Colonel; a member of the Kentucky

Association of Retired Teachers, Kentucky Association of Athletic Directors, Rotary Club, Elks Club, and belonged to Oak Springs United Baptist Church but attended Central Baptist Church in South Ashland.

Mr. Walter was preceded in death by his parents, Lawson Wadsworth and Thelma Lora Walter, a grandson, James Russell "Rusty" Burke, a sister, Norida Nan Walter Nipp, and brothers John Paul, Wendell Jack, and Richard Brockton Walter.

Mr. Walter is survived by his wife of 65 years, Betty Jo Runyon Walter; his eight children, John, Mark (Pam), Jacque (Dale), Jeanie (Jon), Jim (Amy), Beverly, Danny (Julie), and Mary Beth; twelve grandchildren, Angela (Matt), Cristin (Chris), Matthew (Angie), Mandee, Anna, Bonnie, Shelby, Zachary, Ryan (Bridget), Samantha, Tori, and Trent; seventeen great grandchildren, Malia, Alayna, Isaiah, Noah, Sydney, Anniston, Paisley, Tyler, Micah, Austin, Madison, Nathan, Ben, Ryleigh, Levi, Lexi, and Brenton; two brothers, William Grady Walter (Sue), Theodore "Ted" Walter (Patsy); three sisters-in-law, Sylvia Walter, Jenny Walter, and Carole Walter; and one brother-in-law, Bob Nipp. Other surviving in-laws include Linda Moore (Steve), Fred Runyon (Susan), and Jack Runyon. Lafe is also survived by many nieces, nephews, and extended loved ones.

Lafe enjoyed reading, horse racing, playing cards and bingo, watching Kentucky basketball and football, but most of all, he loved traveling with his family and spending time with his children and grandchildren.

A Memorial Service will be held at 1:00 PM Thursday, March 16, 2017 at Miller Funeral Home in Ashland, Kentucky. His final resting place will be at the Golden Oaks Memorial Gardens in Ashland w/military rites by the Kenova American Legion Post 93 and U.S. Army. The family will receive friends from 11:00 AM till 1:00 PM Thursday at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, the

family requests that donations be made to The Rusty Burke Scholarship Fund. Checks may be made payable to The Rusty Burke Scholarship Fund and mailed to 2200 Blackburn Avenue, Ashland, Kentucky, 41101.

# Cemetery Details

## Golden Oaks Memorial Gardens

422 55th St  
Ashland, KY 41101

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 16. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Miller Funeral Home  
1941 Carter Ave  
Ashland, KY 41101  
millerfuneralhome@windstream.net

## Service

MAR 16. 1:00 PM (ET)

Miller Funeral Home  
1941 Carter Ave  
Ashland, KY 41101  
millerfuneralhome@windstream.net

# Tribute Wall

SW

“ *Sherry Stafford Williams lit a candle in memory of Lafayette Walter*



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**Sherry Stafford Williams** - March 18, 2017 at 10:27 AM



“ *Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Lafayette Walter.*



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March 15, 2017 at 02:47 PM

DD

“ *Lafe was always an incredible person to be around. I didn't know him extremely well but he always made me feel welcome no matter what. That kind of feeling is what sticks with people because its something i will never forget. Thank you Lafe.*

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**David Daniel** - March 15, 2017 at 02:20 PM

SS

“ *Sciacca Family - Tom, Tammy and Stephen purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Lafayette Walter.*



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**Sciacca Family - Tom, Tammy and Stephen** - March 15, 2017 at 12:53 PM

FM

“ From, Beth & Guy McGovern purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Lafayette Walter.



From, Beth & Guy McGovern - March 15, 2017 at 12:13 PM

FB

“ Faye H. Brown lit a candle in memory of Lafayette Walter



Faye H. Brown - March 14, 2017 at 04:43 PM

FB

“ My heart and thoughts are with you all. Much Love, Faye Brown

Faye H. Brown - March 14, 2017 at 04:41 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Lafayette Walter.



March 14, 2017 at 01:31 PM

SK

“ *Stacey Klaiber lit a candle in memory of Lafayette Walter*



Stacey Klaiber - March 14, 2017 at 12:53 PM

SK

*Great man, great family, Betty Jo and family, my heart breaks for you, prayers and strength to you all.*

Stacey Klaiber - March 14, 2017 at 12:54 PM

JH

“ *Beverly - I'm so sorry for your loss of your Dad. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time.*

*Jeff H.  
USAO/MDFL  
Tampa, FL*

J Hahn - March 14, 2017 at 11:35 AM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Lafayette Walter.*



March 14, 2017 at 03:10 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Lafayette Walter.*



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March 14, 2017 at 12:29 AM



“ *Dwayne Willis lit a candle in memory of Lafayette Walter*



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**Dwayne Willis** - March 13, 2017 at 10:43 PM



“ *Debbi Stevens lit a candle in memory of Lafayette Walter*



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**Debbi Stevens** - March 13, 2017 at 08:10 PM



*Coach Walter will remain a legend in the hearts of all who knew and loved him. My heart-felt prayers to Betty Jo, Jacque, and all of his amazing family.*

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**Debbi Stevens** - March 13, 2017 at 08:15 PM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Lafayette Walter.*



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March 13, 2017 at 05:33 PM



“ *Betty Jo, Grady, Sue, and family... Dad and I were deeply saddened to hear of Lafe's passing. He was a great man; one in a million and will be truly missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.*

*Jerry Klaiber  
Julie Klaiber Sexton*

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**Julie Sexton** - March 13, 2017 at 03:24 PM



“ *Such a fine man. For those of us who were lucky enough to be friends of the Walter Children Mr. and Mrs. Walter became our other parents.*



*Humble, Dedicated, Loving, and Generous are words that come to mind when describing Mr. and Mrs. Walter.*

*I mourn for them. I know their loss. I also know the things Mr. Walter believed in and represented in life carries on through his children and therefore he carries on.*

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**James H. Stewart** - March 13, 2017 at 03:18 PM

VS

“ So sorry for your loss, sending love and prayers to your family.

vicki collinsworth stewart - March 13, 2017 at 03:07 PM

JF

“ Jeff Smith And Family lit a candle in memory of Lafayette Walter



Jeff Smith and family - March 13, 2017 at 02:36 PM

MH

“ Marcia Hermann lit a candle in memory of Lafayette Walter



Marcia Hermann - March 13, 2017 at 02:00 PM

MH

Jeannie and Pam, so very sorry for you loss, Marcia Wilson Hermann

Marcia Hermann - March 13, 2017 at 02:01 PM



“ He was a amazing man and teacher, I rememeber him teaching us to do the twist thanks to him i now love watching remember the tititans. I know he is happy and will be so glad to reunited with past loved ones.



*Sarah DeLong class of 2004*

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**Sarah DeLong** - March 13, 2017 at 01:00 PM

RS

“ Rev. Pam Seeley lit a candle in memory of Lafayette Walter



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**Rev. Pam Seeley** - March 13, 2017 at 12:52 PM

RS

So sorry for your loss Mark, Pam, Cristin, Chris and girls. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

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**Rev. Pam Seeley** - March 13, 2017 at 12:53 PM

LP

“ Leah Pardee lit a candle in memory of Lafayette Walter



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**Leah Pardee** - March 13, 2017 at 12:21 PM

DB

“ I pray that Betty and family are wrapped in the Lords arms at this time. Our prayers are with you all.  
*Debra Browning*

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**Debra Browning** - March 13, 2017 at 11:28 AM

JR

“ Coach Lafe was one of the most influential men in my life. He taught character, integrity, service, and discipline as well as football. I haven't seen him in a long time, but even now, years later I often think of him and the impact he had on my life. I am praying for the family. *Jim Riggs*

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**Jim Riggs** - March 13, 2017 at 10:51 AM

WH

“ "Lafe" was a very special person and friend, I will always remember his smile and warm greetings. 😊  
*My prayers are with Betty Jo and the family. 🙏 Rest In Peace Lafe.*

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**wendell Howell** - March 13, 2017 at 07:10 AM