



# Mr. Hovie Walker

DEC 26, 1949 - MAR 24, 2017



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## **Mr. Hovie Walker**

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**A** friend to everyone he met and a man who would give you the shirt off his back, Hovie Walker, went to meet his Savior he sang so well about in the early morning hours March 24th with his wife and two daughters at his side.

Hovie Walker was one of the greatest Bass singers to ever approach a microphone reaching lower notes than most any Bass singer today. Hovie sang with such groups as the Thrasher Brothers, Willie Wynn and the Tennesseans, the Statesmen, Leon Russell. After a time of reflection and returning to his calling Hovie joined Jim Murray, Sherman Andrus and Terry Blackwood and put together the Classic Voices or former "Imperials". Lastly he sang with his wife, Sondra. Not only could Hovie sing great, but he could deliver a sermon with the best of them. Hovie was born to be in Gospel Music. He was named after Gospel Great Hovie Lister and was recently inducted into the Tri-State Gospel Music Hall of Fame.

Hovie was a person that treasured anything and everything that people gave him and more than likely he still has all of those things today. Hovie also couldn't meet and talk with you without sharing a funny story. Some were just jokes he had heard, but others were stories from the road and you would laugh until your side hurt so for those of you who really knew Hovie, his family would like you to remember him by his famous last words "Hey, call me, I've got a joke!"

Hovie is preceded in death by his parents, Thomas Jackson and Nellie Ada (Critteneden) Walker; brother, Kenny Walker; sisters, Wanda Williams and Zanda Leamon.

He is survived by his wife, Sondra Walker; two daughters, Keisha and husband, Steven Shelton, and Chelsea Lynn Walker; two grandchildren, Colby Graham and Adasyn Graham; two brothers, Cecil Walker and Bud Walker. Hovie is also survived by a host of relatives and friends.

Serving as pallbearers will be Ken Davidson, Jeff Walker, Lucas Walker, Justin Mercer,



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Brodie Logan, Raymon Whitt. Serving as honorary pallbearers will be James Dean, David Clark, John Foster, Jerry Brown and Fred Mercer.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Absolutely Gospel Music  
[absolutelygospel.com/agm/hovie-walker/](http://absolutelygospel.com/agm/hovie-walker/)

A celebration of life service will be held on Tuesday, March 28, 2017 at 10:00 AM with visitation one hour prior to service time, beginning at 9:00 AM at the River of Life Church (596 Sam Ridley Pkwy W Smyrna, TN 37167). Visitation will be held on Monday, March 27, 2017 from 4:00 PM until 8:00 PM at Spring Hill Funeral Home (5110 Gallatin Rd. Nashville, TN 37216). Interment will take place in the Historic Spring Hill Cemetery.



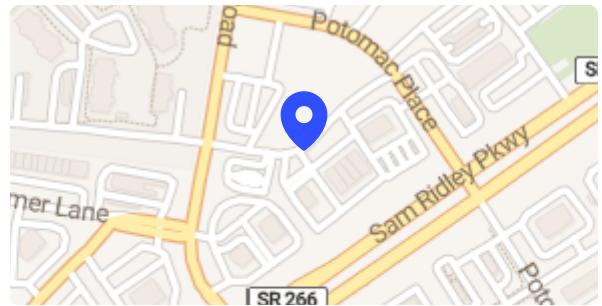
# Events

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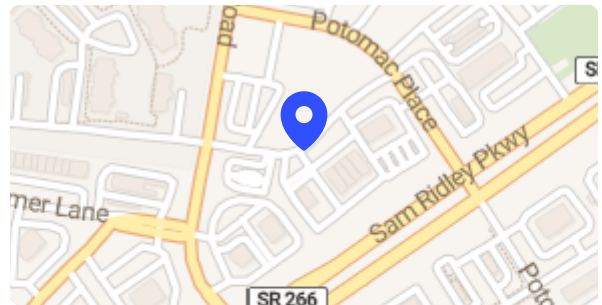
## Visitation

- Tuesday**, March 28, 2017
- 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM CT
- River of Life Church**  
596 Sam Ridley Pkwy W, Smyrna TN 37167



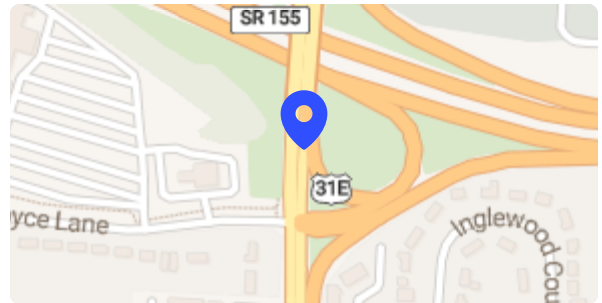
## Celebration Of Life Funeral Ceremony

- Tuesday**, March 28, 2017
- 10:00 AM CT
- River of Life Church**  
596 Sam Ridley Pkwy W, Smyrna TN 37167



## Cemetery Details

- Historic Spring Hill Cemetery**  
5110 Gallatin Road, Nashville TN 37216





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PS

**Paige Wadford Smith** posted:

Hovie was a wonderfully encouraging person and special to our family. We are praying for you!  
The Al Wadford family.

March 30 at 4:31 PM

DH

**Derrick & Kim Hipp** posted:

Hovie will be in our hearts forever. Sondra, we will be praying for you and your family in the days to come. May God bring you comfort as only He is able. We love your family!

March 28 at 4:34 AM

KB

**Kurt & Kim Bailey** posted:

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sondra and the family. May God be with you at this time of need.

March 27 at 2:39 PM

RB

**Ray Bowyer** posted:

It was really a shock when I heard that Hovie had passed away. It was a wonderful friend to me and all of the folks at Pleasant View Baptist Church at New Washington, Indiana. We have known him for a number of years. He, Sondra, and Chelsey have sung for us at the church on a number of occasions. We would always have a great crowd for Sunday morning attendance, with a noon meal afterwards. He always bragged on the cooks. Two or three time Hovie preached for us here at Pleasant View, and did an excellent job. He was making plans to come again this year and sing for us. Boy, we will sure miss him. We are praying for the family. God bless you. Pastor Ray Bowyer, Pleasant View Baptist Church

March 27 at 1:26 PM

NS

**Neville D Shende** sent a Sentiments of Serenity Spray to the Walker family.



March 27 at 7:14 AM



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**The Brillhart Family** sent a Fairest of All to the Walker family.



March 27 at 5:34 AM



**Thom And Jan Lokensgard** sent a Guiding Light Bouquet to the Walker family.



March 27 at 5:05 AM



**Denise Kendrick** posted:

Sending prayers and love your way, as I know your heart is breaking. Stay strong! "You can do all things through Christ!" ❤️ I love you!

March 27 at 3:32 AM



**Cheryl & Raymon Whitt** sent an Amazing Arboricola to the Walker family.



March 26 at 8:35 PM



**Bonnie Burmood** posted:

May prayers be with Sandra, his daughters and Family...I will always remember Hovie's smile and kindness...May he sings all of Heaven and God....Hovie, I will always love and miss your sweet smile...👤😊

March 26 at 3:46 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Florist Choice Bouquet to the Walker family.



March 26 at 1:02 PM



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GB

**Greg Harelson & Becky** sent a Divine Peace Bouquet to the Walker family.



March 26 at 11:24 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Medium Dish Garden to the Walker family.



March 26 at 9:28 AM

GH

**Greg Harelson** posted:

Becky and I would like to say we are very sorry for the lost of a dear friend. Hovie and I sung together and shared some wonderful times that I will hold dear. Rest In Peace My Brother. Greg & Becky Harelson

March 26 at 6:59 AM

KS

**Keisha Walker Shelton** shared an album called **New Album Name**.



March 26 at 5:49 AM

RB

**Rhonda Bryson** posted:

Our deepest condolences, and prayers for your family. Carolyn Coe Bryson and Family Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Leo Fugate.

March 26 at 3:19 AM



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**Neville D Shende** posted:

I so loved this man Hovie Walker, not only was he awesome as a Colleague and a friend, he was a great human being to all that knew him. I will so miss his random visits to our office where he would brighten my day with a hug and a storie joke. I have so many fond memories and stories of my time with this beautiful man. Till we meet in Heaven, I can't wait for the stories you'll tell! ❤️  
Neville Shende

March 25 at 6:05 PM



**Alberta Anderson** posted:

When Hovie was with the Singing Americans, I traveled with them on weekends for several years just to visit and hear them sing. I, also, spent a lot of time with his parents in their home and on the singing travels. Hovie was a great singer, Christian man, friend to all. I had not seen him in the last few years and that is something I regret. I know he is singing with all the great bass singers in HEAVEN. Alberta Anderson

March 25 at 5:43 PM



**Sandra, Joy, Annette, Fred And Amy Walker** sent an Emerald Garden Basket to the Walker family.



March 25 at 3:21 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Pretty Please to the Walker family.



March 25 at 12:45 PM



**Will Dickerson** posted:

Hovie Walker from Athens, T.N. sang from early years with T he Monitors Quartet, T he Singing Americans, Willie Wynn and T he Tennesseans (with HOF Elmer Cole) and T he Imperials. He also sang with T he Thrasher Brothers who were nominated four years as "Entertainer of the Year". We are proud and honored to welcome Hovie Walker to the Tri-State Gospel Music Hall of Fame...PRAYING FOR THE FAMILY....T SGMA HOF CEO Will Dickerson and our entire membership....RIP

March 25 at 12:16 PM



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**Anonymous** sent a Lily and Rose Tribute Spray to the Walker family.

March 25 at 11:19 AM



**Ronnie Gardner (Paramore, Saosin, The Pretty Reckless)** sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Walker family.

March 25 at 11:15 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Deepest Faith to the Walker family.

March 25 at 9:23 AM



**Debi** posted:

Hovie was the kindest, sweetest, most inspiring man I know. He always had a smile. I met him when he began singing bass for The Thrasher Brothers and have considered him a big brother ever since. Although my heart is breaking I know that deep bass voice is singing with the Angels now. Prayers for family and friends.

March 25 at 6:11 AM



**George And Marilyn Boyette Taylor** sent a Strength & Solace Spray to the Walker family.

March 25 at 4:36 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Sweet Sincerity to the Walker family.

March 24 at 4:58 PM





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**Anonymous** sent an A New Sunrise Spray to the Walker family.



March 24 at 1:55 PM



Keisha Walker Shelton shared 3 photos to the **New Album Name** album. March 26 at 5:49 AM





## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Hovie by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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