



Samuel Davis Walker

August 14, 2017

Samuel Davis Walker passed away peacefully at home on August 14, 2017 at the age of 86. He was born at home in Pittsgrove, NJ on April 28, 1931 on the farm of his parents Ethel (Turner) and Howard Walker. He graduated from Vineland High School in 1949 and continued to work on the family farm. He served in the United States Army from 1953 until 1955. His army unit participated in one of the atomic bomb tests in Nevada.

He is survived by his wife of sixty years Peggy (McWilliams), his three children Scott (Sally), Michael (Leslie) and Amy Walker, grandchildren Andy and Jessie Walker, sister-in-law Barbara Finger Walker and brother-in-law Robert McWilliams (Bonnie). His brother Everett Walker and sisters Betty Coblentz and Lois Creeley predeceased him.

Sam and his brother Everett started Walker Bros. Farms in 1964. They were early adopters of innovations in agriculture working with both Rutgers Cooperative Extension and the New Jersey Department of Agriculture on their farm to advance vegetable research. In 1987 they formed Jersey Asparagus Farms Inc., of which Sam served as President. Jersey Asparagus Farms was an international company specializing in asparagus seed and crowns, and Sam and his family traveled to many countries to consult and promote the business, including China, Peru, New Zealand and Mexico.

Sam also contributed to his community as a member of the Elmer Borough Council, the Salem County Board of Agriculture, the Board of Managers for Cook College of Rutgers University, the Elmer Masonic Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons #160, the Cumberland County College Advisory Board, New Jersey Forest Fire Warden, New Jersey Farm Bureau, Vineland Produce Auction and the Landisville Fruit Growers Association. He and his brother were honored by the New Jersey Vegetable Growers Association as Vegetable Grower of the Year in 1995 and recognized for their service to the community by the Willow Grove Fire Department in 1997.

Sam had many interests, but his life was his family, farming, straight field rows and traveling. A time to gather and celebrate Sam's life will be held on Saturday, August 19, 2017 at the Adams Funeral Home, 111 S. Main St., Elmer, NJ 08318. The family will be available starting at 10 AM to greet those who wish to stop by and pay their respects with the service following at 11:30 AM. Interment is private. In lieu of flowers please send contributions to the Elmer Fire Department, P.O. Box 459, Elmer, NJ 08318. www.adamsfuneralhome.org

Cemetery Details

Private Interment

Previous Events

The family will be available to greet:

AUG 19. 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Adams Funeral Home - South Jersey Cremation Services (Elmer)
111 South Main Street
Elmer, NJ 08318
(856) 358-3737

Memorial Service

AUG 19. 11:30 AM (ET)

Adams Funeral Home - South Jersey Cremation Services (Elmer)
111 South Main Street
Elmer, NJ 08318
(856) 358-3737

Tribute Wall

DD

“ Dear Scott, Michael and Amy:
Our condolences as you grieve the passing of your father Sam. Dawn and I just heard of his death when we were visiting Peter and Sue Knight from Norfolk, England. We spend quite a bit of time laughing and telling "Sam stories". Mostly we gushed about what a nice man he was. How generous, kind, friendly and giving. Dawn particularly talked about Asparagus symposium spouse tours with Peggy and Amy. Oh the fun the Walkers had and the memories we will treasure. I remember talks about asparagus, getting good insights into the issues of the moment and the opportunities to share, not only our mutual interests but our lives. Thank you Sam for being the man you where.
God bless you all in this difficult time.
Your friends
Dan and Dawn Drost

Daniel Thomas Drost - August 25, 2017 at 04:08 AM

JB

“ John & Marijo Bakker purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Samuel Davis Walker.



John & Marijo Bakker - August 16, 2017 at 03:17 PM

JB

“ I remember meeting Sam for the 1st time back in 84 or 85. We were desperate to get our hands on some Jersey Giant seed or crowns and I ran across an ad in a vegetable publication directing me to Walker Brothers Farm. Within 5 minutes of connecting with Sam we were chatting like we were old acquaintances. Five minutes later an invite to come out and visit and a few weeks later Norm Krantz and I were welcomed like we were long lost family. That was Sam - making you feel at ease and treating you like an old friend. My best memories of Sam were here in Michigan when he came out to visit us. I remember dinner with our family at a local restaurant. Marijo, our 3 young kids Sam and myself. Sam made a point of visiting with each of the kids, learning about their interests and attending to them like a grandparent. I remember Sam's astonishment that everyone out here not only left their cars unlocked but most left the keys in the ignition and I'll never forget the horror on Sam's face the day that he & I jumped in the truck with Tom Oomen for a farm tour - field to field on wash-board, twisting gravel roads - at Tom's normal 65mph speed. I almost feel guilty now wondering if that trip took a few days off of Sam's wonderful life. I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to the entire family and please know you are in my thoughts and prayers.
John Bakker

John Bakker - August 16, 2017 at 02:08 PM

ST

“ Mr Sam Walker I am so happy that I had the pleasure in working with you as your caretaker, you always greeted me with a hello how are you! and a Thank you when I left it was a short time knowing you but it seemed like I known you for a long time with your pleasant attitude and spirit! I'm really going to miss you but I know you are in a better place God took a wonderful Angel with him name Sam Walker Rest In Peace my friend! Sarah Terrell

Sarah Terrell - August 15, 2017 at 06:56 PM