



## Marvin Charles Walker

October 24, 1934 - December 22, 2021

It is with great sadness that the Walker family announces the sudden and unexpected passing of our family's patriarch Marvin Charles Walker.

Marv was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan and attended Cooley High School in Detroit. After high school he joined the Army during the Korean War and served two years in Germany. He returned to Michigan after the war and attended Highland Park Community College in the Detroit area and then Central Michigan University in Mount Pleasant Michigan where he received a Bachelors Degree and Teaching Certification. After a brief Teaching career Marv decided to join the automotive industry working first at both Hetche and Conyers Ford in Downtown Detroit before accepting a position as General Manager at Bob Ford, Inc. in Dearborn, Michigan in 1977. In September of 1983 Marv became the President and owner of the dealership and renamed it Fairlane Ford Sales, Inc., where he enjoyed over three decades of success, winning countless awards and accolades as one of the most respected and successful dealerships in the country, as well as serving on the National Dealer Council and many other important boards and committees. Besides being highly regarded in business he was well respected in his community and church as well.

Marv is survived by his wife Alice of 63 years and his children Julie (Jeremy Chapman) and Joseph; his four grandchildren Vincent, Aaron, Calvin and

Adam; sister Virginia (Willard) Bosanko, and 3 nieces Susan, Jane and Jennifer. Marv's loving spirit, devotion to family, generosity and sense of community will never be forgotten by family and any and all who knew him. He will be sorely missed by all.

Honorarium donations in Marvin's memory should be made to The American Heart Association ([https://www.heart.org/?form=donate&s\\_src=21U5W1AEMG&s\\_subsrc=evg\\_sem&gclid=EAlaIQobChMI49mmgeT89AIVUBfUAR26iwcjEAAYASABEgJaQPD\\_BwE&gclsrc=aw.ds](https://www.heart.org/?form=donate&s_src=21U5W1AEMG&s_subsrc=evg_sem&gclid=EAlaIQobChMI49mmgeT89AIVUBfUAR26iwcjEAAYASABEgJaQPD_BwE&gclsrc=aw.ds)) and St. Jude's Children's Hospital ([https://www.stjude.org/donate/donate-to-st-jude.html?amount=x&adobe\\_mc\\_sd id=SDID%3D5F831872924767AD-1BB435DCDA999541%7CMCORGID%3D091B467352782E0D0A490D45%40AdobeOrg%7CTS%3D1640360843&adobe\\_mc\\_ref=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.google.com%2F&sc\\_dcm=58700006942402311&sc\\_cid=kwp&sc\\_cat=b&ds\\_rl=1285465&gclid=EAlaIQobChMIkJWPpOT89AIVgRXUAR1OsgjDEAAYASABEgJ83fD\\_BwE&gclsrc=aw.ds](https://www.stjude.org/donate/donate-to-st-jude.html?amount=x&adobe_mc_sd id=SDID%3D5F831872924767AD-1BB435DCDA999541%7CMCORGID%3D091B467352782E0D0A490D45%40AdobeOrg%7CTS%3D1640360843&adobe_mc_ref=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.google.com%2F&sc_dcm=58700006942402311&sc_cid=kwp&sc_cat=b&ds_rl=1285465&gclid=EAlaIQobChMIkJWPpOT89AIVgRXUAR1OsgjDEAAYASABEgJ83fD_BwE&gclsrc=aw.ds)).

To sign Marv's guest register or to leave online condolences, please visit [www.ShikanyFuneralHome.com](http://www.ShikanyFuneralHome.com).

Arrangements are being handled by Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home and Crematory, Family Owned and Operated since 1978.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Marvin Charles Walker*

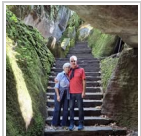
October 09, 2023 at 03:40 AM



“ *Dear Alice & Family, "Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day. Unheard, unseen, so very near, so loved, so missed, so very dear." Author Unknown.*

*To think we shared so much as children and adults, cherishing our loving parents, family and friends, and now we are separated. Your departure has turned our joy into mourning. Rest in peace dear brother with our Heavenly Father until we meet again.  
Your loving sister Virginia, brother-in-law Willard, and niece Susan Bosanko.*

**Sue Bosanko** - January 09, 2022 at 02:54 PM



“ *We saw Marv in Petoskey, Michigan in October 2021. It had been a number of years but Marv and Alice were so gracious. We spent the evening sitting on the deck overlooking the golf course and Lake Michigan beyond it. Marv was enjoying telling stories, usually funny memories and we thoroughly enjoyed listening. It was such a pleasant evening and I will remember how delightful and kind he was. I wasn't sure he remembered who we were so I was touched when he leaned over and said he hoped we would visit again soon. Our deepest sympathies to Alice, Julie and Joe.*

**Adria Iannotti** - January 05, 2022 at 04:11 PM

RH

“ I knew Marv as a friend and morning breakfast partner at the Fairlane Club as well as my personal Ford Dealer. One morning after the major world problems were resolved by our breakfast group, he passed a rather nasty customer complaint letter around the table; as I was setting next to him, I was the last to see the letter. It was from my oldest daughter, who also worked at Ford Motor Company, and I was embarrassed, but admired her objectivity, Marv let me suffer a while before saying he had seen many worse letters. We had lots of fun times at the Club.  
*Bob Hommel*

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**Robert Hommel** - January 04, 2022 at 03:08 PM

MZ

“ My husband and I knew Marv for many years. A group of us would have breakfast at the Fairlane Club every morning, for years. We all sorta grew up together. We became good and honest friends. What a great experience.

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**Mary Lou Zangerle** - January 04, 2022 at 09:29 AM

“Immediately after someone close to me passes away, I always feel like my grief stricken mind can't find the appropriate words or story that I want to share. It's like the words in my head are a game of scrabble that takes days or weeks to process and put to paper until I feel like I have a “Bingo”-(scrabble term), that, that person deserves!

*With the passing of my future father-in-law, Mr. Walker, this one hurts. And will continue to hurt for a very long time to a vast amount of people, who were lucky enough to have met him. Nearly 10 years ago, I turned into one of the “LUCKY” people!*

*At our introduction dinner both Mr and Mrs Walker were so warm & welcoming to me which I will be forever grateful for. Mr Walker's wittiness and funny jokes brought laughter the whole time, and laughter is a great remedy to curb any nervousness or anxiety. Mr Walker had a very good understanding of this. From that day forward he always insisted that I call him “Marv”. My reply would always be, absolutely, Mr Walker... Sir! Which would be followed by an immediate laugh by him.*

*A few years ago, Mr Walker had a serious medical scare and was in recovery at McLaren in Petoskey. He was still a bit loopy from the medication they had given him. Julie and I rushed up north in record time the moment we received the call. When we arrived and I approached him, I said Hi Mr Walker. You really scared us. He smiled with his big perfect smile that everyone knows and looks over to his wife and said: Alice what are we going to do with him? He can't call me dad because they're not married yet. We have a real problem here.. I replied, sir, I will call you anything you want besides just your first name because to me it's a respect thing and I just can't do it. He laid there and thought about it for a moment, then his eyes opened wide and with a serious face, said, I got it! You can call me King Marv! We all laughed and I agreed to that. From that day forward it was always King or Mr. Walker depending on the setting.*

*I will truly miss our one-on-one patio discussions while we would watch the golfers tee off on the 4th hole. I was intrigued then and now feel blessed that you shared many of your spectacular life's experiences and stories with me. I am lucky that we got to play many rounds of golf together, that we both deeply enjoyed and always looked forward too.*

*King Marv, you sir, we're one of the Great Ones in many of our books of life. You will truly be missed for a long, long, time to come. I am sad to see you go, but at the same time, feel very privileged that such a great man welcomed me into his family.*

*Love,*

*Jeremy*



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**Jeremy Chapman** - December 31, 2021 at 08:16 PM

GC

*“ Chuck and I are so fortunate to have had the opportunity to spend some time in Florida with Marv and Alice. We so enjoyed hearing his story leading up to owning the dealership and talking about early days with their children. He was most certainly a great boss and above all, a great husband and father. Alice, Julie and Joe, you were all so blessed to have had him in your life and he will truly be missed. Our thoughts and prayers will be with you for a long while.*

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**Genevieve Chapman** - December 31, 2021 at 10:46 AM

CA

“ Dear Alice,  
I continue to think of you and remember you, Julie and Joe in my prayers. I look forward to our next phone call.  
When I think of Marv I always see that smile that made you feel like he cared about you.  
What great memories I have of times at our homes in Northville Commons, playing doubles tennis at Southdowns, Michigan games on Saturdays with delicious tailgate food,  
Burt Lake and Boyne City gatherings and many more. We will share more when I see you. I hope to see you in Florida and of course in Petoskey.  
May the love of your many friends and knowing how much Marv loved you give you some comfort.  
Love, prayers and a hug,  
Carol

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**carol** - December 31, 2021 at 09:34 AM

JH

“ Dearest Alice,  
We were so sad to hear about Marv's passing. We will always remember the fun times we spent traveling with you both. Buzzy also has many great memories of golfing with Marv and Jerry at Audubon. Most of all, Buzzy is forever grateful for how kind and welcoming Marv was towards him, when starting out in the FDAF and Dealer groups.  
With Deep Sympathy,  
Buzzy & Jan

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**Janet Holzer** - December 29, 2021 at 10:51 PM

JH

“*Marv and I served on the Metro Detroit Ford Dealers Board for 15 years together, and we also traveled regularly for business as well as pleasure during those years. Maintaining our friendship beyond those days, we ended up together in Naples, Florida in my retirement and in his semi-retirement. With my Judy and his Alice, our guiding lights, we worked hard and played hard in an effort to maximize the sales performance of Ford dealers and Ford products in the Detroit metro area. He often shared his expertise as a successful businessman with up and coming Ford dealers in an effort to upgrade the customer experience for Ford Motor Company in our market area.*

*A loyal friend, a guiding businessman, and just a great guy.*

*John Huntington*

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**John Huntington** - December 29, 2021 at 02:56 PM

BH

“*Janice and Brian Hitch send their heartfelt condolences to Alice and the Walker family. We enjoyed the friendship of Alice and Marvin at Audubon Country Club in Naples Florida, and more recently at Bentley Village.*

*Marvin's death is a great loss to us. He was a humorous raconteur of his business experiences in Detroit, and served the Audubon community with distinction as President of the Board. Marvin was a fun partner at men's golf, and he and Alice were great dinner companions. He will be missed.*

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**Brian Hitch** - December 27, 2021 at 06:16 PM

JD

“Marvelous” Marv, Marcia and I will never forget the great times we had with you and Alice on our 20 Group trips. All the children got to know one another and we had special times. Love from The Jay Dunphy Family

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**Jay & Marcia Dunphy** - December 27, 2021 at 04:41 PM

LC

“ I had the pleasure of working with Marv at Fairlane Ford. He was a great person to work for, he always took time to stop and say hello when he saw you with a smile on his face. He was a very kind man. Sending prayers to the Walker family.

*Linda "Croo" Chavis*

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**Linda Chavis** - December 27, 2021 at 12:20 PM

GT

“ I worked with Marv at the dealership. Each week the managers gathered the sales staff for a briefing on current marketing programs and a bit of grousing. The closing of the meeting was Marv's presentation of snippets of motivation he had gleaned from his reading of the Wall Street Journal and trade publications. He arrived with small notes and occasionally a hand out. Always a detailed look at some aspect of proper business practices which always lead to the core values of self improvement, discipline, and care of family. When he finished it lifted everyone out of their chairs with a little chuckle because he touched a nerve not felt in the normal business day and we all went away with a feeling that we had a fatherly talk. I miss him.

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**Gary Turla** - December 27, 2021 at 11:42 AM

LO

“ *Marv Walker was a very kind and caring person to work for at Fairlane Ford. He always took the time to sit and ask how we and our families were doing. Marv always had a good story to tell and his door was always open. He will be greatly missed.*

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**Lorraine** - December 26, 2021 at 02:40 PM

BM

“ *Alice and family... We were shocked and saddened to hear of Marv's passing. We had dinner with the Walker's recently and Marv seemed genuinely happy in his new home in Bentley Village. A long time member of Audubon CC in Naples, Marv loved Audubon and was pleased to be known as a former President of the club. We have fond memories of the birthday group celebrations at the Ritz, the Greenbriar and Gasperilla Island. We will miss this good man. Our thoughts and prayers are with Alice and the family during this difficult time.*

*Carolyn and Bob Myers*

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**Bob Myers** - December 25, 2021 at 10:41 PM

VW

“ In life Marve was an avid reader, talented storyteller, strong motivator, and my Grandfather.

*I will always remember the stories he told about his life in Detroit as a child, military service, career highlights, and how he had seen the world change in his long and eventful time. He had a keen sense of people and was always quick with a joke, a welcome presence in any setting.*

*Years ago and sound of mind I asked him what he would tell his younger self if he could, he had three pieces of advice for me:*

*- Read often, for fun and for knowledge, especially in printed word. Education is key.*

*- Have direction. Figure out what you want and get after it as soon as you can.*

*- Make many friends and maintain your relationships. They are the most important things in life as you get older.*

*I took his words to task and know that he helped to make me the man I am today. He will be sorely missed. I take solace in knowing I was able to see him and give him my thanks, and that his legacy will live on. Rest In Peace, Marve.*

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**Vincent Walker** - December 25, 2021 at 06:19 PM

BD

“ I first met Marv back in the eighties when I was a zone manager in training working for Ford Motor Company. Needless to say, I liked him and respected him from minute one. I have to go on and say that anyone I spoke to at Ford had nothing but affection for him. Additionally, any other dealer principal (his competition) that I spoke to about Marv had nothing but that same affection for him.

*God bless you Marv!*

*BD*

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**Bruce Deutsch** - December 25, 2021 at 02:01 PM

PM

“ I worked for Mr. Walker for many years. I will fondly remember my time at Fairlane Ford. I always called Marv, Mr. Walker out of respect except on the golf course. On the course it was just "Marv". It is tough to convey my admiration for a man that mentored me in the dealership as Marv did. I enjoyed every conversation we had, although some could get long winded :). Marv was a great friend, educator, and above all "Class Act". Marv you will be missed by many, rest well!

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**Paul Marra** - December 25, 2021 at 01:45 PM

JW

“ I remember The good old days when we played golf with you and the Morrows and Apostalakis at all different golf courses. WE have a lot of memories from those days. He was a great guy. You are in our prayers Alice. Hang in there!!

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**Jeri Whiteside** - December 25, 2021 at 10:13 AM

BR

“ I am deeply saddened to hear of Marv's passing. He was a wonderful human and an honorable man. I am proud to have had the opportunity to work with and for him! May he Rest In Peace and may God bless you and your family during this time.

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**Bob Roush** - December 25, 2021 at 09:58 AM

BJ

“ Marv was a gentleman in every sense of the word. He was smart, generous and kind. He will be greatly missed.

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**Bev and Jackie** - December 25, 2021 at 08:56 AM

TL

“ We will miss you Mr.Walker. I can remember the start of our manager meetings at the dealership. Marv would be telling us some cool related story and Julie would be trying to move the meeting along. So much wisdom. God bless you Marv and help the family through these times. ❤️

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**Tim Livernois** - December 25, 2021 at 07:27 AM

JH

“ I had the pleasure to sell cars in 1985 at Fairlane Ford. He was always approachable, fair, and genuinely nice man. Always held the deepest respect for him. So sad to hear of his passing. Sending love and support to his beloved family.

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**Julie Poster Hebda** - December 24, 2021 at 08:37 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Marvin Charles Walker.



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December 24, 2021 at 06:48 PM

JP

“ I will never forget you or your wonderful family. Babysitting for Julie is among my favorite teen memories...praying you all find peace beyond understanding in the memories of love and laughter shared.

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**Jeanice Pantier-Mullen** - December 24, 2021 at 03:34 PM

LO

*He was a wonderful person to work for and I appreciate that we were able to be a part of his legacy at Fairlane. Thank you to the Walker family for sharing such a kind soul with us.*

**Loaaine** - December 24, 2021 at 06:26 PM

LO

*We will miss his happy smile and he always wanted to know how we were doing and our families as well. Rest in peace.*

**Lorraine** - December 24, 2021 at 06:54 PM

BH

*He was a great man I worked for him for 20 years. He treated me like family and was like a father to me. I will miss him a lot. rest in peace 🙏*

**Bassam about hosn** - December 25, 2021 at 10:20 AM

BP

*Marvin was a dear and long time friend going back to the late sixties. We vacationed together and had lot of good times and laughs. He always had stories to tell and really enjoyed his friends. We will miss him. Our most sincere condolences to Alice, Julie and Joey. Bob and Rose Marie*

**Bob Phillips** - December 25, 2021 at 04:00 PM



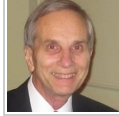
*A wonderful man who who I met through his daughter, my good friend Julie. Linda Moore and I will be keeping his family in our thoughts and prayers, in the days ahead.*

**Scott Boman** - December 27, 2021 at 02:31 AM



*A wonderful man who I met through his daughter, my good friend Julie. Linda Moore and I will be keeping his family in our thoughts and prayers, in the days ahead.*

**Scott Boman** - December 27, 2021 at 02:57 AM



*We were blessed to have Marv as a friend at Audubon Country Club then continued the friendship at Bentley Village. He was a great story teller and friend to many. We will miss his smiling face as we express our condolences to Alice and her family.*

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**Larry Baytos** - December 28, 2021 at 04:42 PM

DB

*Marv was a wonderful man and friend. He will be missed. My prayers are with Alice and her family. 🙏*

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**David Brown** - December 29, 2021 at 02:01 PM