



David Lynn Walker

January 2, 1947 - June 1, 2017

David Walker Sr., amazingly courageous human being, and resident of Camas, WA, resigned from his leadership position in life to take on a new position as Gods chief advisor, June 1st at the age of 70, after a courageous battle with Cancer. After a month of intense negotiations, David finally accepted the terms of this new position, but only after his loving wife of the past 32 years, Kathy, agreed that he was ready for such a promotion. David is survived by his Wife Kathy; son Sean Walker; daughter Dawn (Mark) Grant; daughter Tonia (Jim) Hrella; brother Garey (Shirley) Walker; sister Darlene Milan; brother-in-law Don Springstead; 7 Grandchildren, Alexander; Jodi; Dianna; Joshua; David 3rd; Sophia; Maya. 4 Great-grandchildren, Malania; Logan; Roses; Oliver. Mother and father-in-law Clayton and Fay Holbrook Sister-in-law Ruthie (Larry) Lambert; sister-in-law Lorie (James) Collins; special friend Richard (Marybeth) Jeannot, special niece Angela Lyon, more than a dozen nieces and nephews; and hundreds of past and present Thortex family members. David is proceeded in death by his parents Harry and Marie Walker; Son David Walker Jr., sister Diane Springstead; brother Harry Walker Jr. Nothing about David was normal or done without flair, and the world needed to focus on him and what he was doing. Because of that, he refused to let the New Year celebrations interfere with his birth, and waited one more day. The day he was born, January 2, 1947, the world stopped for a half a second. It had to readjust its gravitational pull, because it knew this little boy was going to be one heck of a magnetic man. He was born in Muskegon, MI

to Harry Sr. and Marie Walker (both deceased), where he lived for most of his youth. He married Sandra Jo Cartwright on March 12th 1966 in Muskegon whom he later divorced, but not after creating three unique sparks of life in his daughter and sons (Dawn, Sean, and David). In a few years, his world changed and he met the first, and most impactful, of many loves in his life, Kathy, whom he then married on August 25, 1984. Not only was Kathy the reason for him to get out of bed every day, but she was his muse, and the one person that would drive him to be better. David had such a magnetic pull, when he wanted to try something new and move out to Oregon, Kathy and her daughter from a previous marriage, Tonia, didn't even have to think about it, and off they went! In true Brady Bunch nostalgia, David and Kathy merged their families, and the love that formed built a foundation that would be unbreakable in the toughest of times. Once settled in Oregon, David's magnetism continued, and before long, his sister-in-law Lorie, and his mother and father-in-law Clayton and Fay, all had moved to be located around his strong pull. This is when David's life story went the way of other great men in history (Steve Jobs, Bill Gates, John Rockefeller, Ray Kroc, Thomas Edison, and the list could go on and on and on... David decided to change the world, and that is exactly what he did. In 1990, while sitting around the dining room table with close friends and family (Kathy, Lorie, and Sharon), he announced the formation of a new company, Thortex. These were the first four employees that formed the family, and from there it grew to a very successful corporation manufacturing some of the world's finest orthopedic products and tools that have ever been created. Thanks to his hard work and magnetic personality that kept things together in good and bad times, Thortex now has 160 employees, sells products around the globe, and has done more for the world than most would dream of doing in 20 lifetimes. Though David has gone, and his friends and family are sad, no one will mourn. No, if David were here, he would want to know why you weren't out making that big sale, playing that round of golf, spending time with your loved ones, finishing his month end challenge, or just being a good human being. He would want you to live by his

example, learn from his mistakes, and celebrate a life that was well lived! He is now sitting on a plane above our own, at a pearl executive table, watching over all he loved, while challenging the big man to do better! Special Recognition: The family of David Walker would also like to offer their condolences to an unnamed love of his life, the Diageo Corporation, as they are sure to suffer on their next quarterly statement with the loss of their number one Johnnie Walker connoisseur! As David would have said, Get off your rear and find a way to make up that difference! David Walker In lieu of Flowers- Kathy has suggested that instead of flowers, you can contribute to 1 of 2 favorite charities of Dave Kathy has set up 2 accounts to deposits donations for Multiple Myeloma and the Wounded Warrior program through University of Utah. A check can be mailed, payable to Kathy Walker, at Thortex address 15045 NE Mason Street, Portland, OR 97230 and note in memo line of check which charity you would like to contribute too. A option, if you prefer, is to contribute directly to each charity *Multiple Myeloma Foundation, www.themmr.org. *Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine" (6720A Rockledge Drive Bethesda, Maryland), Attention Drs. Paul Pasquina and Brad

Tribute Wall



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Evergreen Memorial Gardens - July 03, 2025 at 08:40 PM

MT

“ I am so sad to hear of the repose of my dear friend David. He has been a point of positive energy in my life for over thirty years. He is truly a person who made a difference in this world, and we are all impoverished with his passing. Because of his good heart, he will be well received into God's Kingdom. Memory eternal.

Marc Trolinger - July 11, 2017 at 12:00 AM

MJ

“ Dearest Kathy. I saw Tonia's post on Facebook The tribute to David is so touching and so "David". My heart and love goes out to you and your family. I'm sure you will always feel his presence. With love. Jo and Greg

MaryJo Jacobs - June 13, 2017 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ Thank you both Dave and Kathy for the opportunity to work at thortex. Dave blessed us with a freedom to work unsupervised. He always spoke his mind, which I loved about him. He hired some great people over the years. Some left, but many came back. Which spoke volumes. We will miss him, and miss his loving wife too. They were a great team together, blessed to have found one another.

Mark fakelman - June 12, 2017 at 12:00 AM

DG

“ I worked at Thortex the first time for 6 1/2 months and then the second time for 16 years. Working for David and Kathy Walker was the best decision I ever made in my machining career which began in 1979. Thortex was my home away from home. I love the Walker Family, and the world will be a whole different place without Dave in it. My deepest condolences go out to the Walker Family, whom I consider to be Family. I love you all, and wish so much that I could be there to deliver my condolences in person. God bless you all in the Walker, and Thortex Family. Rest In Peace? Dave! You deserve nothing less.

Duane (Slim), and Debbie Goslar - June 11, 2017 at 12:00 AM

PC

“ I only met Dave within the last two years, but quickly admired his optimism and character. He was a great guy and it was obvious he made life brighter for the people around him. My thoughts are with his family and friends.

Patrick Corcorran - June 11, 2017 at 12:00 AM

GW

“ Things are pretty sad here at the Wild home. Deb and I knew that your email would happen fairly soon based on our last telephone conversation. We did not want to interfere with all that you are dealing with so we hoped for the best and waited. Cancer is such an issue, especially with people our age (at leased mine). I have lost many great friends in the last five years, or so, and I obviously counted Dave among them. Dave was so tough. He was such a fighter. He was also a visionary in the very good sense of that term. We used to sit on the deck of my Costa Bella home and share a bottle of wine. Our house was not occupied yet but that didn't matter even a little bit. I had the enviable benefit of sharing his dream and what a dream it was. I have never known a person of Dave's energy and kindness and I will miss him very much. Dave, my amigo, I will think of you a lot when I sit on the deck and watch the boats and birds. And of course, when I am ever offered a little taste of Blue Label. Vaya con Dios

Gary Wild - June 10, 2017 at 12:00 AM

AC

“ As an a immigrant, Dave and Kathy, gave me many opportunities to learn and grow in this company. I was able to learn English, they paid for my school so I could further my education, and always encouraged me to strive for more. I am very thankful for their trust and for the opportunity to have him as a boss. His hugs ,encouraging words, and personality will be missed. My heart and prayers go out to the family left behind. God bless you.

Anica A. Colibaseanu - June 10, 2017 at 12:00 AM

SB

“David Walker, my best boss ever. His determination embolden me to challenge projects that look impossible for others to achieve. I appreciate the opportunity that you and Kathy gave me to work for you. I will greatly miss you, Dave. To the Walker family: Remember that your loss is shared by many friends who care, and that you are in our thoughts and in our every prayer. May you find the courage to face tomorrow in the love that surrounds you today.

Simion Bortis - June 10, 2017 at 12:00 AM

DR

“Dave, you will be sorely missed! I always enjoyed working with him since the 1990's at Depuy. As a customer, I loved to hear Dave's response to any request, "Sure, we can do that!" It was always up to the rest of the Thortex team to bring me back to reality, but I never felt bad about it because of Dave's love for life. May God comfort all the family at this time.

Don Running - June 09, 2017 at 12:00 AM

BM

“David was a one of a kind human, his foot print will be forever stamped in this world. I feel truly blessed to have known him. To the Walker family my heart and Prayers are with you.

Brandon Mihaljcic - June 09, 2017 at 12:00 AM

SP

“David was a great mentor for me here at Thortex for the last 19 years. I will miss him greatly. Thank you David and Kathy for everything.

Steve Paull - June 09, 2017 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ 16 years ago, on my first day at Thortex, a young Dave Walker walked up to me in a white lab coat and said "so I hear you're a fisherman". "I hope you don't call in sick to skip off and fish!". I never have. Dave was always willing to fit me in on one of his guided fishing trips to fill a seat. I got to know the boss outside of the walls of work. He would always make it a point to sit at my desk when was on the floor, and talk about what fish was running and how the catching had been. He would share stories "back in the day" of his fishing adventures. I am going to miss that time with him. He was an amazing man. For his family, I wish you my deepest condolences.

Steve Freeman - June 09, 2017 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ Dave, thank you for being who you were. Barb and I have always thought most highly of you and kathy. Having recently passed on, Barb will be helping to keep your spirits up in Heaven and I hope to do the same with both of you, when it is my turn.

Tom Mersereau - June 09, 2017 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ Sending our sympathy and love to David's family. I know he will be missed. Steve and Hope Sieradzki and family

Steve and Hope Sieradzki - June 09, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JO

“ My heartfelt sorrow to Kathy and Dave's family. Dave was a pleasure to be with and a blessing to me and our company. Thank you Dave.

Jeff Ondrla - June 09, 2017 at 12:00 AM

BD

“ I am one of the old timers with Thortex and work for Dave and Kathy for 23 years. Dave inspired me in many different ways and I felt like Thortex was one big family. I will always be thankful for the blessings and opportunity I had working with Dave. God bless his family and rest his soul!

Benjamin Dusciuc - June 09, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ For nearly 20 years Thortex has been my work home. I feel like a member of one big family. David, I will miss you and will never forget the awesome opportunity it has been to work here. May God rest your soul and may your family be blessed and comforted during this time.

John Donahoe - June 09, 2017 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ David was the best boss ever and he and Kathy have made my life so much better. I will miss him terribly!

Patti Salazar - June 08, 2017 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ I have built my life and raised my family around my job at Thortex. All because of Dave's vision. Many of us will be forever grateful for the opportunity to serve in part of Dave and Kathy's dream. RIP Dave! You will be missed.

Bryan Burleson - June 08, 2017 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ Thank you for everything Dave...RIP

Becky Labra - June 07, 2017 at 12:00 AM

DR

“ We are very sorry to hear about Dave's passing. God bless your family.

Dave and Mary Wilson (Reagan) - June 06, 2017 at 12:00 AM

BD

“ My deepest condolences. David lived life large and had a heart bigger than an eighteen wheeler. He fought a long, hard battle and kept his pain to himself. You will be missed Dave Walker.

Bill Dow - June 05, 2017 at 12:00 AM

GW

“ Love you brother.

Garey & Shirley Walker - June 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM