



## Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.

October 22, 1950 - May 8, 2026

Walter Morris Jr., 75, of Magnolia, transitioned from Magnolia Regional Center on May 8, 2026.

Walter was born on October 22, 1950, to Mr. Walter Morris Sr. and Ruth T. Morris in Tampa, Florida.

Because of his father's military career (Air Force), Walter experienced the life and culture of several countries (Spain, France, and Germany) at a young age.

Eventually, Walter's family moved back to the US and settled in Magnolia, where he attended Columbia High and was an exceptional athlete (State High Jump Champion '69). He graduated in 1969.

Walter was also a phenomenal musician and singer. He was in several bands over the years, playing locally for reunions, public events, the County Fair, and opening for well-known artists.

In 1996, Walter became a member of Jones Chapel Baptist Church and dedicated his life and musical talents to minister to the hearts of others in service to God. In 2023, he became a member of Bethlehem Baptist Church, where he continued his ministry.

Walter and Virgie met as teenagers, and though their lives took different paths, they were reunited in 1982. Walter married Virgie McGraw Smith on March 17, 1986. Together, they have three children: Dawn, Marc, and Walter III.

Walter was preceded in transition by his parents and brother, Rayfield Morris (Tampa, FL).

Walter (Big Daddy) will live on in the hearts and minds of his wife, Virgie Morris of Magnolia, AR; One daughter, Dawn (Ron) Sanders of Little Rock, AR; Two sons, Marc (Ambra) Smith of Zebulon, NC, and Walter Morris III of Magnolia, AR; One sister, Peggy Morris of Magnolia, AR; Five grandchildren: Urich Sanders of Athens, AL, Kyron Sanders of Irving, TX, Nickia Sanders of Washington, D.C., Corban Smith of Zebulon, NC, and Inari Morris of Magnolia, AR; One nephew, Rev. Robert F. Morris II of Longmont, CO; and Jonathan Brewer, his young friend who became like a son, as well as nieces, nephews, cousins, and many, many friends.

Celebration of Life services will be held Saturday, May 23rd, 2026, at Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church in Magnolia, Arkansas at 11:00 a.m., with burial to follow at 23rd Psalms Cemetery in Magnolia, under the direction of R.L. Reed Funeral Home, LLC. Dr. B.J. Harris, Pastor. Minister Robert F. Morris II, Eulogist.

Visitation will be Friday, {May 22nd}, from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. at R.L. Reed Funeral Home.

A final viewing will take place before services from 10:00 – 10:45 a.m., so please govern yourselves accordingly.

“For precaution due to the COVID-19, Masks are Encouraged but Not Required While Attending the Services and During Visitation Hours. However, wearing masks ensures safety for you and others. Thank you.”

# Cemetery Details

## 23rd Psalms Cemetery

Columbia Rd # 30 East  
Magnolia, AR

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 22. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

R.L. Reed Funeral Home  
100 Hwy 79 North  
Magnolia, AR 71753  
(870) 901-3536

## Celebration of Life

MAY 23. 11:00 AM (CT)

Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church  
900 S. Washington  
Magnolia, AR

# Tribute Wall

RH

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of Mr. Walter Morris Jr. He was truly a nice man, and A Great Man Of God. His music, singing and most of all, he will be missed. Rest In Peace!!



Robert And Debbie Newborn Harper - May 23 at 07:32 AM

OJ

“ Olivia Johnson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



olivia johnson - May 22 at 11:55 PM

AP

“ Angelia Parker lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



Angelia Parker - May 22 at 07:45 PM

JH

“ Jackie H. purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr..



Jackie H. - May 22 at 02:46 PM

JH

“ Jackie H. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr..

Jackie H. - May 22 at 02:46 PM

MC

“ Michael Clayton lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



Michael Clayton - May 22 at 12:01 PM

WF

“ Walter you gave run your race well, Rest in Peace my classmate.

Weavie Finister - May 21 at 08:53 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr..



May 21 at 03:38 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr..

May 21 at 03:38 PM

ML

“ You'll be missed so much Walt.. Forever our Gentle Giant! WESTWOOD4LIFE 🥺❤️🕊️



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**Monica Love** - May 19 at 04:46 AM

BW

“ May God bless the family of Brother Walter Morris, Jr. He was such a kind gentleman who shared his gifts of singing and playing the guitar with others. Magnolia has suffered a tremendous loss but Mr. Morris has been chosen to sing in the Heavenly Choir. Our prayers are with you family. Much love, Billy and Patricia Williams



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**Billy and Patricia Williams** - May 17 at 09:19 PM

GT

“ Gracie W Tucker sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



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**Gracie W Tucker** - May 16 at 03:56 PM

GT

*Sending prayers of comfort to the entire Morris Family. Psalm 23:4 says, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me." Walter represents the ultimate example of a Christian man. He is kind, considerate, loving, dependable and always loving to all who knows him. His music touched the lives of so many near and far. He will be solely missed in this community. A true servant of the Most High King. Fly high Walter, playing and singing for that heavenly choir. We will see you later. 🎵🙏❤️*

**Gracie W Tucker** - May 16 at 04:28 PM

GT

“ Gladys Talley lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



**Gladys Talley** - May 15 at 11:58 PM

VB

“ Victor and Shawn Bean  
Mt. Holly, Arkansas



**Victor and Shawn Bean** - May 15 at 03:47 PM

EE

“ Ester Easter lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



**Ester Easter** - May 14 at 09:15 PM

SG

“ Stephanie Goree lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



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**Stephanie Goree** - May 14 at 03:57 PM

BS

“ Betty Sims lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



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**betty sims** - May 14 at 02:56 PM

KR

“ Kenneth Ransom lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



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**Kenneth Ransom** - May 14 at 09:35 AM

VC

“ Velma Cole lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



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**Velma Cole** - May 14 at 12:03 AM

RC

“ *Rev. Donald Cole sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.*



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**Rev. Donald Cole** - May 14 at 12:02 AM

SC

“ *Sharon Cole lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.*



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**Sharon Cole** - May 14 at 12:01 AM

AW

“ *Annie Witcher lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.*



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**Annie Witcher** - May 13 at 10:17 PM

DB

“ *My condolences to family and friends. He will surely be missed with his joyful praises and singing.*



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**Deloris Blackmon** - May 13 at 12:59 AM

MP

“ *Mary S. Pickings lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.*



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**Mary S. Pickings** - May 12 at 04:04 PM

LP

“ *LaHoma Privitera lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.*



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**LaHoma Privitera** - May 12 at 03:52 PM

TB

“ *Hey fam. This is Tyler Burkett. You are all in my thoughts and prayers. Every time I had the pleasure of talking to Big Walt, he was always so warm and welcoming. He was always the biggest teddy bear* ❤️

*For my buddy Walter, Big Walt will always be an honorary member of our band: Pop in da pool. He can get us some gigs up in heaven for when we join him.*

*RIP Big Walt*

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**Tyler Burkett** - May 12 at 02:45 PM

FB

*My Deepest and Sincere Condolences To Virgie..The Children and Grands..and Peggy and The Rest of The Morris Family and Friends..We will definitely miss Walter @The Bethlehem Baptist Church..RiL "Big Walter". Felicia Renee Lindse y Baley*

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**Felicia Bagley** - May 21 at 06:25 PM

CD

“ I had the short pleasure of knowing Mr. Morris at our church, before Sunday school I would play around with him and other members. I told Mr. Morris you remind me of Fred Hammond and when time allows, I asked him to sing this solo as a favor to me, he said okay. "I'll Be Running Back to You", by Fred H. and Commissioned. With Love I will always see you singing that song for me. Rest In Love.

Camelia Dennis - May 12 at 08:06 AM

JH

“ Rest in peace my Brother and Classmate, class of 1969 ,the last graduating class of Columbia High..May God rest your soul and give your family and us peace in your Home Going. Class of 69 Jerry Hayes and all Classmates



Jerry Hayes - May 11 at 07:36 PM

RY

“ Mr Walter I played drums with him and he was telling me about how important musicians were to the service

Ryan - May 11 at 05:23 PM

HJ

“ Helen R Johnson sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



Helen R Johnson - May 11 at 04:21 PM

JG

“ Joann Glasgow sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



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**Joann Glasgow** - May 11 at 09:11 AM

KG

“ Kelly Gentry lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



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**Kelly Gentry** - May 11 at 12:26 AM

TE

“ Tearee Easter lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



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**Tearee Easter** - May 10 at 07:12 PM

KM

“ Kathy Moore lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



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**Kathy Moore** - May 10 at 06:25 PM

RP

“ *Ronnie Parker sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.*



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**Ronnie Parker** - May 10 at 05:20 PM

DH

“ *Dearlean Hughes sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.*



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**Dearlean Hughes** - May 10 at 04:20 PM

GJ

“ *George Jenkins lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.*



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**George Jenkins** - May 10 at 03:13 PM

WA

“ *Wandagoodner lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.*



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**Wandagoodner** - May 10 at 09:30 AM

WA

*Marilyn Ransom was a great person! I always admired her for her loving personality, among other great qualities!! I will surely miss her!!*

**Wandagoodner** - May 10 at 09:32 AM

MA

“ *Mekia Anderson sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.*



**Mekia Anderson** - May 10 at 09:18 AM

NH

“ *Nina Hamilton lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.*



**Nina Hamilton** - May 10 at 08:12 AM

GJ

“ *Gladys Talley Jones sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.*



**Gladys Talley Jones** - May 10 at 01:14 AM

GJ

“ Gladys Talley Jones lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



Gladys Talley Jones - May 10 at 01:14 AM

AP

“ Angelia Parker lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



Angelia Parker - May 09 at 10:21 PM

LT

“ Linda Taylor sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



Linda Taylor - May 09 at 09:58 PM



“ Angela Stevens lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



Angela Stevens - May 09 at 09:40 PM

MM

“ *Melvin Madison lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.*



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**Melvin Madison** - May 09 at 09:05 PM

JD

“ *James & Sandra Daniels sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.*



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**James & Sandra Daniels** - May 09 at 09:01 PM

PS

“ *Perry Smith sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.*



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**Perry Smith** - May 09 at 09:01 PM

IS

“ *Irene Smith lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.*



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**Irene Smith** - May 09 at 08:56 PM

JW

“ I'm praying for the family



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**joann whitaker** - May 09 at 07:43 PM

JJ

“ R.I.H. Big Walt. You were a musical inspiration that blossomed from Westwood Village. PRAYERS FOR YOUR FAMILY AND STRENGTH FOR THE LOST THAT MAGNOLIA SUFFERED! GOD IS AWESOME 🙏



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**James Jefferson Jr** - May 09 at 07:39 PM

WR

“ We are praying for the family. Walter was one of my first friends upon moving to magnolia. We worked together at Shanhouse. He was the best and we will miss him. RIL



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**Wendell Russ** - May 09 at 07:37 PM

KC

“ You will be missed and the guitar is now silent.

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**Kathy Carrothers** - May 09 at 07:02 PM

JE

“ may GOD bless the family allways,we all need him & his son jesus no greater love then them .amen

jehuggins - May 09 at 05:26 PM

BM

“ Beverly McGraw lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



Beverly McGraw - May 09 at 03:28 PM

BC

“ Betty Chappel lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



Betty Chappel - May 09 at 03:09 PM

JP

“ Jace Proctor sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



Jace Proctor - May 09 at 12:29 PM



“ We have been so blessed by his gift and friendship for many years. What a tremendous heartbreak. But our prayers and deepest condolences to the family of our friend



Hal Prevoe - May 09 at 12:28 PM



“ Condolences to the families and friends.



Helen R Johnson - May 09 at 12:26 PM



“ My condolences to family and friends, he will surely be missed. May God give you all strength and wipe every tear.



Deloris Blackmon - May 09 at 12:11 PM



“ Deloris Blackmon lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



Deloris Blackmon - May 09 at 12:09 PM

BJ

“ *Brenda Jacobs-Hanson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.*



**Brenda Jacobs-Hanson** - May 09 at 11:51 AM

ER

“ *EDNA ROWDEN lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.*



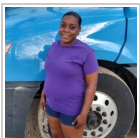
**EDNA ROWDEN** - May 09 at 10:58 AM

FJ

“ *Fred Johnson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.*



**Fred Johnson** - May 09 at 10:22 AM



“ *Shavone Aubrey lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.*



**Shavone Aubrey** - May 09 at 09:47 AM

CG

“ Carol Garland lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



Carol Garland - May 09 at 09:40 AM

MS

“ Maurice Strong sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



Maurice Strong - May 09 at 09:01 AM



“ Jennifer White lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



Jennifer White - May 09 at 08:01 AM

RK

“ Renae King sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



Renae King - May 09 at 07:49 AM

LS

“ Little Joe Scott lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



little Joe Scott - May 08 at 11:28 PM

DM

“ Douglas And Cassandra Moss lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



Douglas and Cassandra Moss - May 08 at 10:32 PM

MS

“ Margie Chappel Standoak lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



Margie Chappel Standoak - May 08 at 09:13 PM

CP

“ Carolyn Parhm lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



Carolyn Parhm - May 08 at 08:59 PM

EG

“ Elizabeth Gilbert lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



Elizabeth Gilbert - May 08 at 08:49 PM

LJ

“ Lesa Johnson sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



Lesa Johnson - May 08 at 07:26 PM

CD

“ Camille Dennis lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



Camille Dennis - May 08 at 07:12 PM



“ Barbara Daniels sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.



Barbara Daniels - May 08 at 06:50 PM

BD

“ *Barbara L Daniels lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.*



Barbara L Daniels - May 08 at 06:50 PM

EC

“ *Earline Champ lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.*



Earline Champ - May 08 at 06:35 PM

JM

“ *Jeanette Manning&C.L Manning lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.*



Jeanette Manning&C.L Manning - May 08 at 06:34 PM

MM

“ *Mark Mcgraw lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Big Walt" Morris Jr.*



Mark Mcgraw - May 08 at 06:29 PM