



Isaac W. Wade

September 12, 1949 - September 11, 2023

We mourn the loss and celebrate the extraordinary life of Isaac "Walt" Wade, who departed this world a day before his 74th birthday, leaving a legacy of love, music, and unparalleled service. Born and bred in Pittsburgh, Walt's life story was intertwined with moments of brilliance and the kind touch of humanity. His love for jazz, imbued from his trailblazing mother – the city's first female African-American school principal – echoed in his soulful piano solos. Walt, who began gracing local clubs with his melodies at just 17, would later recount his immense pride in opening for the legendary Gil Scott-Heron at Carnegie Hall in 1976.

Walt's commitment and passion for hospitality were recognized on a grand scale when he was inducted into the Hospitality Hall of Fame in 2009. However, his journey in this field began in a serendipitous way. His extraordinary knack for connecting with people, first spotted during a temporary stint at Pittsburgh's Hyatt Hotel in 1977, took him to unparalleled heights in the hospitality industry. Here, he met the astute Horst Schulze, the soon-to-be founder of The Ritz-Carlton Hotel Company. Seeing the potential in Walt, Schulze mentored him, guiding his transformation into a luminary for the Hyatt brand. Walt would go on to pioneer roles within the company, eventually making his mark as the Hyatt Regency Atlanta's sole Meetings Concierge Manager. In this role, he showcased an unwavering commitment, bridging the gap between meeting planners and hotel staff, ensuring unforgettable

experiences for events of all sizes.

In recognition of his tireless devotion and contribution to the world of hospitality, the Downtown Hyatt Regency has dedicated and named a room in his honor – a testament to his enduring legacy.

His vibrant sense of humor, love for storytelling, and unmatched passion for hospitality made him not just an employee but an embodiment of the heart and soul of the industry. Joe Hindsley, the Hyatt Regency Atlanta's general manager, often recalls how Walt's magnetic aura had returning meeting planners consistently inquiring about his involvement.

As we bid farewell to this icon of hospitality and music, let's honor him for his enduring commitment, his deep love for jazz, and his profound ability to touch hearts and lives. Walt's melody may have paused, but his legacy will forever resonate. Rest in peace, dear Walt.

Walt is survived by his loving wife, Brenda Willis-Wade; daughter, Kimberly Willis; granddaughter & grandson-in-law, Brittney Smiley-Badji and Alfousseynou Badji; great grandson, Malcolm Badji; sister, Iris Wade; niece, April Dents; cousins, Adriene Dilworth, Tenancy Coe, Robert and Mildred Snyder.

A Funeral Service will be held at 1:00 PM on Saturday, October 7, 2023 at McKendree United Methodist Church, 1570 Lawrenceville-Suwanee Road, Lawrenceville, GA 30043. The family will receive friends at the church on Friday, October 6, 2023 from 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM, and Saturday from 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM prior to the service. Arrangements by Tim Stewart Funeral Home, 300 Simonton Road SW, Lawrenceville, GA 30046. 770-962-3100. Please sign the online guest registry at www.stewartfh.com

The Funeral Service will be live streamed at
<https://youtube.com/live/IHk-H1nqH3Y?feature=share>

Previous Events

Visitation/Wake

OCT 6. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

McKendree United Methodist Church
1570 Lawrenceville Suwanee Road, NW
Lawrenceville, GA

Visitation/Wake

OCT 7. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

McKendree United Methodist Church
1570 Lawrenceville Suwanee Road, NW
Lawrenceville, GA

Funeral Service

OCT 7. 1:00 PM (ET)

McKendree United Methodist Church
1570 Lawrenceville Suwanee Road, NW
Lawrenceville, GA

The Funeral Service will be lived streamed at <https://youtube.com/live/IHk-H1nqH3Y?feature=share>

Tribute Wall

DI

“ Meeting you guys always put a smile on my face when I saw they ever lasting Love you 2 shared. Walt always had a joke to make me laugh. . Rest in Heaven my friend. David yall favorite Ups man

David Williams III - October 07, 2023 at 12:38 PM

“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Isaac W. Wade.



October 05, 2023 at 10:19 AM

RS

“ Rich and Lisa Mistretta and AF&A staff purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Isaac W. Wade.



Rich and Lisa Mistretta and AF&A staff - October 04, 2023 at 07:03 AM

RS

“ Rich and Lisa Mistretta and AF&A staff planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Isaac W. Wade.

Rich and Lisa Mistretta and AF&A staff - October 04, 2023 at 07:03 AM

DW

“ Rest easy Papa. The twins and I love you beyond words and you will truly be missed

Debrina Webb - October 02, 2023 at 12:58 PM

IW

“ Iris Wade purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Isaac W. Wade.



Iris Wade - September 25, 2023 at 11:34 AM

CC

“ Walt Wade was a gentleman’s gentleman to anyone he ever met. He was one of the best hoteliers I have ever worked with, and I am not sure anyone can outdo what he has accomplished in the hotel hospitality field. Watching him deal with a peer, fellow employees, and meeting planners, one could only sit back and watch him hold a hotel master class in hospitality. I learned so much from him, and I am still a follower of his steps of service.

I will truly miss him, but what he taught me and so many others will keep his legend alive. I hope those Walt touched will continue teaching young people his philosophies so his legacy will live on. His life is one we can never forget.

Craig Cappy

Craig Cappy - September 21, 2023 at 10:12 AM

SC

“ Me & Walt shared a wonderful friendship. Walt was in my life for just one year at a Lawrenceville retirement home but he left me with lifetime memories & an unforgettable smile. Rest in peace my friend!

Steve Wallendorf & wife Cora - September 18, 2023 at 11:39 AM

CW

“ My Strongest Prayers Are With His Loving Wife And Family. He was a kind gentleman with a caring heart for his family and friends. He is missed by all of us



Charles M. Williams - September 17, 2023 at 10:38 PM

EL

“ Condolences to the Wade family. Walt's essence and sense of humor will be missed!



Elisa - September 17, 2023 at 02:25 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Isaac W. Wade.



September 16, 2023 at 05:48 PM