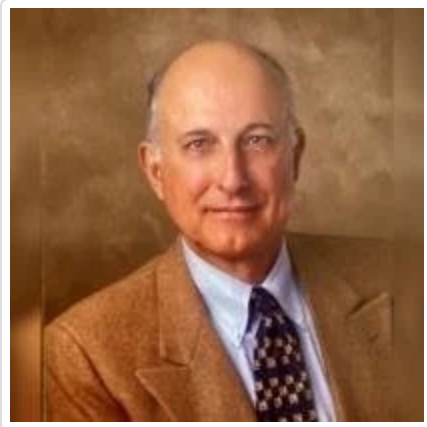

# Fredric Ernest Walker, Jr.

June 15, 1935 - April 29, 2025

Dr. Fredric Ernest Walker, Jr., M.D. of Minneapolis, Minnesota passed peacefully on April 29, 2025. Fred will be deeply missed by his wife of 66 years, Karen, his daughter Kathryn and grandson Leo, along with his son Tim and granddaughter Olivea. Fred was preceded in death by his mother, Marie Louise, and father, Fredric Ernest, Sr. Fred is survived by his brothers John, Jim (wife Judy), and Bill (wife Trudy). A man of high energy, Fred had a fierce intelligence and a deep love for his wife, children and grandchildren.

Fred was born and raised in the Cleveland, Ohio area, and later attended the University of Michigan. At the University of Michigan, Fred majored in Fine Arts and was a soloist in the Men's Glee Club. Fred had a lifelong love for music and was especially fond of his days singing with the Glee Club. Fred received his medical degree from Northwestern University (Chicago, Illinois campus), and did his internship at Chicago Wesley Memorial Hospital. Afterwards, Fred moved to Minnesota, where he did his residency at the VA hospital in Minneapolis and was Chief Resident.

After finishing his medical education, Fred served in the United States Army and was stationed in Redstone Arsenal, Alabama, where he was Chief of Medicine and achieved the rank of Captain. During his service at Redstone Arsenal, he earned the Legion of Merit - a U.S. military decoration awarded for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service

and achievement. His leadership role in entirely reorganizing and raising the level of services offered by the Department of Medicine and the Department of Clinics produced both remarkable improvement and excellent results.
After the Army, Fred returned to Minnesota and spent most of his career practicing medicine at North Clinic in Robbinsdale, Minnesota. Fred was an excellent doctor providing top-level medical care and support to his patients. For many years, Fred was the "go-to" person at North Clinic for fluid and electrolyte management and was also recognized for his expertise in cardiology. Fred was the driving force behind the expansion of the North Clinic (now part of Voyage Health) in the Twin Cities and was instrumental in keeping North Clinic independent. He was heavily involved in hospice care, and was co-Medical Director of North Hospice, North Memorial's hospice care unit. Fred was also a Clinical Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine at the University of Minnesota Medical School and a Board Member of Medica, then Allina Health.

In retirement, Fred worked at Portamedic, performing medical examinations for high net-worth individuals, and remained active for many years with hospice care.

Fred had a wide range of interests and a can-do spirit. In addition to being a top-notch doctor, he could repair a car, program a computer, do electrical projects, play a mean game of pool, fix a wonderful meal, speak German, sing beautifully, throw a championship yo-yo, play a great game of racquetball, and perform any type of handyman work.

Fred always wanted to be of service to his family, friends, colleagues and patients, and was never too busy to offer a helping hand to those who needed it. His love of life, dynamism, sense of humor, intellect and curiosity will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

A memorial service will be held Thursday, June 5, at 2:00pm at Mount Olivet Church, 5025 Knox Av. S, Minneapolis, MN 55419, with a reception immediately following at Pittsburgh Blue, 3220 W 70th St., Edina, MN 55435. Donations in memory of Fred may be made to the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Minnesota, Roseville, MN, the Metropolitan Opera, NY, NY, or any charity of your choice.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

JUN **5**. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Mount Olivet Lutheran Church (So. Mpls)
5025 Knox Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55419

# Tribute Wall

LB

*Dear Family members, I was a family medicine resident at North Memorial from 1974-77 and "Dr. Walker" was undoubtedly one of my favorite mentors (perhaps a close equal was doc Swenson, his partner). One of my most memorable times was when he stood up to one of the most venerable North surgeons, whose patient was in the ICU from surgical complications. Fred took a bold step and presented the surgeon with incontrovertible evidence of this internal bleeding and forced him to return to the OR for a life-saving correction. I regret that I lost track of Fred and would have delighted in visiting with him again about old times. Sincerely, Lyle Best, MD I best@restel.com 701-871-7345*

**Lyle G Best** - September 13, 2025 at 12:45 PM

RS

*Fred Walker was an excellent doctor, husband, father, humanitarian and a treasured family member. From a small boy on, I always admired Fred when he attended family gatherings with Karen. He possessed a gift of lighting up the whole room with his robust voice, friendly personality and passion for singing. He was so much fun at Christmas Eve. parties as we sang carols with his voice leading the way. Fred's love of family and service to others will long be remembered and his legacy will truly live on. Karen's Cousin Rob and The Zambetti Family here in Cleveland send our sincere sympathy with many blessings to her and loved ones in Minneapolis and also to the Walker Family in Cleveland, Ohio. God bless you, Fred.*

**Robert Swanson** - June 04, 2025 at 11:53 AM