



CELEBRATING THE LEGEND OF



HILDRETH 'HAL'

WALKER JR.



Celebrating the Life of
Prof. Hildreth Hal Walker, Jr.

Sunrise: Friday, July 28,1933
Sunset: Sunday,Nov 24,2024

December 19, 2024 11:00 am

Holman United Methodist Church
3320 West Adams Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90018
323.703.5868 | holman@aol.com



CELEBRATING THE LEGEND OF
HILDRETH 'HAL'
WALKER JR.

Songs, Hymns & Spritual Songs

How Great Thou Art

Oh Lord, my God
When I, in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder
Thy power throughout the universe displayed

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art

When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart
Then I shall bow, in humble adoration
And then proclaim, my God, how great Thou art

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art
How great Thou art, how great Thou art

Jesus is all the world to me

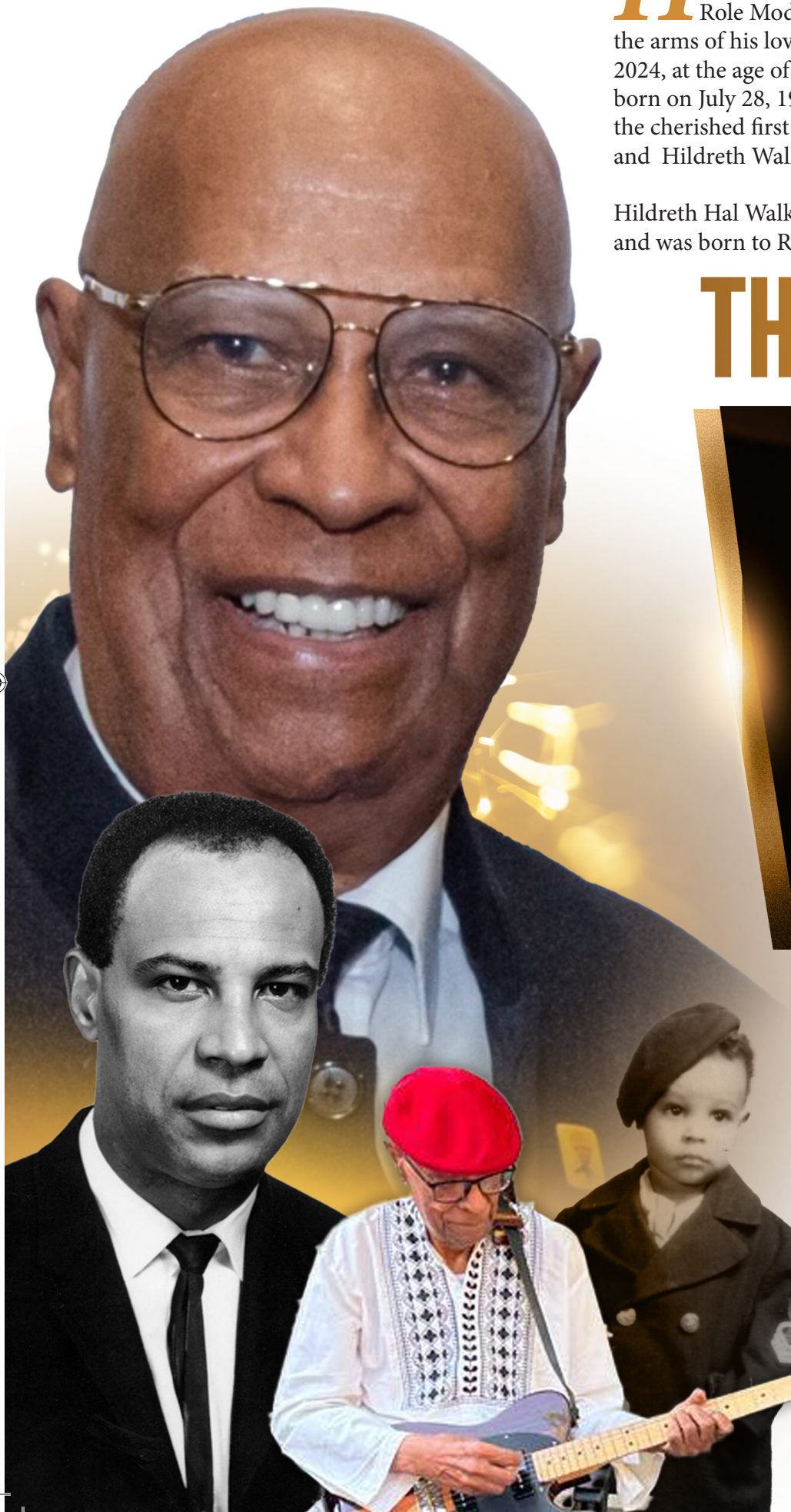
Jesus is all the world to me:
My life, my joy, my all.
He is my strength from day to day;
Without Him I would fall.
When I am sad, to Him I go;
No other one can cheer me so.
When I am sad, He makes me glad;
He's my Friend.

Jesus is all the world to me,
My Friend in trials sore.
I go to Him for blessings, and
He gives them o'er and o'er.
He sends the sunshine and the rain;
He sends the harvest's golden grain:
Sunshine and rain, harvest of grain—
He's my Friend.

Jesus is all the world to me,
And true to Him I'll be.
Oh, how could I this Friend deny
When He's so true to me?
Following Him I know I'm right;
He watches o'er me day and night.
Following Him by day and night,
He's my Friend.

Jesus is all the world to me,
I want no better friend.
I trust Him now; I'll trust Him when
Life's fleeting days shall end.
Beautiful life with such a Friend;
Beautiful life that has no end!
Eternal life, eternal joy,
He's my Friend.





Hal as he was known by all, was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, friend and Role Model for all. Hal passed away peacefully in the arms of his loving wife, Dr. Bettye, on November 24, 2024, at the age of 91 in Cape Town South Africa. He was born on July 28, 1933, in New Orleans, Louisiana and was the cherished first born son of the late Rosetta Wilkerson and Hildreth Walker, Sr.

Hildreth Hal Walker Jr. blessed this earth on July 28, 1933, and was born to Rosetta Levi and Hildreth Walker, Sr. in

“Jr.”, as he was coined by his family, attended and graduated from Jefferson High School in Los Angeles. After graduating high school, Walker joined the U.S. Navy in 1951 and served four years, ending his military career as an Electrician’s Mate. Discharged from the U.S. Navy, he took a job at the Douglas Aircraft Company, installing Radar Systems in Navy jet bombers.

he initially joined Korad Lasers and working long lengths of time in Alaska. He remained with Korad for ten years. During this time, Allison was born and Hal left Korad In 1974. At this time, Hal received a call from a Managing Director at Hughes Aircraft Company who insisted on Hal joining their Laser Department as Assistant Manager.

of young African-American and other minority girls and boys. The after school, weekends and summer programs focus on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

Hal and Dr. Bettye established the SASA (South African Student Achievers) program in South Africa at the invitation of President

Nelson Mandela and implemented science and technology programs in schools across the country. Prof. Walker and Dr. Bettye made history again: On February 27, 2019, South Africa welcomed the opening of the first chapter of the National Space Society (NSS) in South Africa: The Cape Town Space Society (CTSS). Prof. Hal and Dr. Bettye Walker founded this first-ever Chapter on the African Continent.

THE LEGACY OF PROFESSOR HILDRETH HAL WALKER JR.

New Orleans, Louisiana. When he was 2 years old, his mother wed Joseph Marshall Wilkerson from which his siblings were born: Stanley, Marshall, Melba and Annie. The family ventured west from Alexandria, LA when the children were young with sights set on establishing themselves in Los Angeles, California. And the family did just that! Rosetta, formerly a teacher in Louisiana continued to make her mark as an educator which ignited Hildreth’s quest for knowledge.

But there was limited opportunity for advancement, so he enrolled in the Electrical Engineering program at Los Angeles City College on the GI Bill and earned his Associate of Arts Degree. Later in life, he attended Pacific Christian College and graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Technology Management.

In the midst of building his foundations toward growth, he established time to build his family. Raymond and Hildreth III (Tracy), were born when

Hal initially said no because he remembered riding his bike to Hughes as a teenager to look through the fence and longed to go inside to see the activities. He was sent away by staff!

In 1987 he married the love of his life, Dr. Bettye Davis Walker, Assistant Professor, Howard University, Washington, D. C., his life partner in business, education, music and Christian activities.

A-MAN is celebrating 33 Years and is dedicated to the nurturing

Hal often remembered when he confessed Christ and began his spiritual journey at the Baptist Church in Los Angeles. Hal loved the Lord and let it be known by his actions, words and deeds by helping others. He played guitar for the Metropolitan Zion church choir for many years.

Hal was the Walk to Emmaus Lay Director and board member for several years while Dr. Bettye was Music Director and his right hand. They conducted weekend Retreats at Mt Vernon UMC Church,





spending the nights from Thursday to Sunday, twice each year. Rev. Cavalain Hawkins was Hal's Spiritual Director for the weekend Retreats. Rev Hawkins continued to pray with Hal & Dr. Bettye weekly right up to Hal's passing.

Alas, he was recruited to work at Hughes, where he dedicated 15 years of service. Hal was the Director of the last Company Project at Hughes before it closed.

Dr. Bettye directed the only STEM project funded by UCLA. Hal then joined Dr. Bettye and set his sights on what would become his life's passion.

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Prof Hal was also a Solar System Ambassador for JPL/ NASA, Pasadena CA. Hal was recently honored in October 2020 by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs as 'Veteran of the Day' featured in the Veteran's Administration Newsletter Blog for his exemplary service in the United States Navy. He was honored by the University of the Western Cape at the Africa and the International Use of Energy Conference in Cape Town, South Africa. Both Hal and Dr. Bettye were honored with the Humanitarian Award and Trophy, received from The Caucus of Producers, Writers & Directors in Beverly Hills, and the 2020 Unsung Heroes Award in Sacramento by California State Senator Holly J. Mitchell.

Prof. Hal is survived by his wife, Dr. Bettye; children: Raymond and Allison; grandchildren: Raishauna, Justin, Kara, Lance, Nile, Mecca, and Asia and 17 great grandchildren; sister, Melba; sister in laws: Margaret W., Margaret D., nieces: Rose, Wendy, Vivi, Yoli, Lauren, Mia; nephews: Christopher, George III Eric; Great nephews: George IV, Spencer; Great nieces: Natalia, Sydney; cousins: Buster, DaVeil, Shirlene, Dianne, Olin and Keith. Grandson Tajwar passed in 1994.

Hildreth (Hal) Walker, Jr. Walker led the manufacturing, testing and operation of the KORAD K-1500 ruby laser system during the 1969 Apollo 11 Moon landings

Lunar Laser Ranging experiment. This historic first successful interplanetary Lunar Laser Ranging experiment was replicated in 1994 in an interactive exhibit located in the Hands on Science section of Science in American Life at the Smithsonian Institution National Museum of American History in Washington, D.C. Mr. Walker himself was honored in the exhibit's permanent section , "The New Moon."

Mr. Walker's space technology involvements began in 1959 as a technical member of the RCA Corporation's BMEWS (Ballistic Missile Early Warning System) situated in the Alaskan frontiers to detect Soviet Missile nuclear attacks. This experience prepared him to expand his career into the

laser technology industry in early 1964 at KORAD Laser Systems, a Division of the Union Carbide Corporation. As a laser systems specialist, Hal traveled throughout the United States and the world introducing advanced new Laser Technologies to the fields of scientific research and industrial applications.

In 1974 Hal joined the Hughes Aircraft Company where he participated in developing and placing the first Tactical Laser Target Designator System into the U.S. Army inventory. Mr. Walker retired in 1989 from the management team of the Hughes Aircraft Company . He then founded and served until 2010 as president and CEO of TECH PLUS, a Laser Technology consultant group. The group participated in national projects such as the Laser Induced Plasma Fusion at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

Hal was appointed to be a JPL/NASA Solar System Ambassador in 2000. In this role he participates as a speaker and specialist in space-related technology issues. His responsibilities were promoting public education and development of local community awareness and benefits regarding space technology and deep space future exploration. He is a Member and Educator Associate of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) .

Walker is board chairman and co - founder, with his wife Dr. Bettye Walker, of the African - American Male Achievers Network, Inc. (A - MAN), a non - profit corporation.

A - MAN is dedicated to the nurturing of young African - American and other minority students with particular emphasis in science and mathematics. Hal is a graduate of Pacific Christian College (Cum Laude) with a BS Degree, Business Technology Management. Hal and Bettye have established the STEM Centers, in South Africa at the invitation of President Nelson Mandela and implemented science and technology programs in township schools across the country. Prof. Walker and Dr. Bettye made history again; on February 27, South Africa welcomed the opening of the first chapter of the National Space Society (NSS) on the African Continent: The Cape Town Space Society (CTSS). Prof. Hal and Dr. Bettye Walker founded this first-ever Chapter.

Both Prof. Hal and Dr. Bettye Walker are 30 year Rotarian members of the Downtown Los Angeles Rotary Club. They have developed partnerships with Rotary clubs in Cape Town and Pretoria as well as coordinated the establishment of more than a dozen state-of- the-art Computer Literacy Labs in schools throughout South Africa. They have assisted in raising \$325k as a Rotary Fundraising Partner for the Blouberg Rotary Club in Cape Town, South Africa. The funds provided a Bronchoscope Machine for the Tygerberg Children's Hospital which makes Surgery less Invasive.

Hal was recently honored in October 2020 by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs as 'Veteran of the Day' featured in Veteran's Administration Newsletter Blog for his exemplary service in the United States Navy. Hal was the keynote speaker at the University of the Western Cape Conference on the International Use of Energy in Cape Town, South Africa. Both Hal and Bettye Walker were honored with the Humanitarian Award and Trophy, received from The Caucus of Producers, Writers & Directors and the 2020 Unsung Heroes Award by California State Senator Holly J. Mitchell.

Hal adopted Ralph J. Bunche Elementary school and Frank L. Walton Middle school through the partners for Schools program. At Bunche school he assisted in establishing a science laboratory in honor of Astronaut Dr. Ronald E. McNair.

Affiliations: 30 year Rotarian Member of the Downtown Los Angeles Club, Honorary member of the Blouberg Rotary Club in Cape Town, South Africa, Lifetime member of Kappa Alp ha Psi Fraternity , Inc, Los Angeles, Alumni Chapter; Founding Polemarch Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Cape Town - Western Cape Alumni Chapter , Cape Town South Africa. Past Board Chairman, Walk to Emmaus Los Angeles Community. Member Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, Boule; Delta Xi Chapter. President, National Space Society of South Africa.

Hildreth (Hal) Walker, Jr. 50TH Anniversary of the Apollo 11 Honors and keynote Speaker

• Honored by the Santa Monica History Museum

• Honored with Permanent Plaque placed in his honor at Lick Observatory in San Jose, CA

• Honored by The Holman UM Church Celebration; received Resolutions from Los Angeles City Councilman Curren Price and The Pasadena City Council by Councilman John Kennedy

• Honored by The Caucus for Producers, Writers and Directors

• Smithsonian Museum of Air & Space in Washington, D.C. Keynote speaker for What's New in Aerospace, "Shooting Lasers at the Moon" aired on NASA TV. Prof. Walker kicked off the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the Apollo 11 Moon Landing at this event.

Firing a Laser at the Moon: Perspectives from a NASA Solar System Ambassador with Hildreth (Hal) Walker Jr. (7 PM @ Bechtel Gallery 3, Wattis Webcast Studio.) In 1969, during the Apollo 11 mission, Hildreth (Hal) Walker, Jr. and his team used a ruby laser to measure the distance from Earth to the moon. They trained a laser beam from Lick Observatory in California all the way to a reflector mirror, just 18 inches wide, set up on the moon's surface by Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin—and recorded the most accurate measurement of the distance ever, exact to within five meters. Find out firsthand what it takes to aim your laser at a tiny mirror on the moon and actually hit it!

• The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) spotlight Prof. Walker virtual event entitled, Try Engineering Live: Engineer Spotlight. Students from around the world were very excited to ask Prof. Walker about his scientific journey.

• San Francisco Museum, Keynote Speaker for Apollo 11 Moon Landing

• University of California Irvine Keynote Speaker

• US Consulate in Cape Town, South Africa, Keynote Speaker

Dear Dr. Bettye,

Words have failed me these last couple of days since Ive sadly come to hear of the passing of your beloved husband through Desma. I cannot imagine what you are going through, having lost such an amazing partner as Prof. Hal..... He was no doubt such a remarkable human being, who left his mark and legacy upon this world, with his contribution and achievements, but also an extraordinary love story between the two of you.

It was such an honour to be in his company and witness the genuine love and compassion he had for you. He was a warm, wise and gentle soul whom I always looked forward to talking to and just generally being in the presence of. On the few occasions where we found ourselves alone in the car, waiting for you to complete shopping, he always spoke highly of you in your absence as he undoubtedly adored you, and was always so proud to call himself your husband and tell me how lucky he was to have you in his life.

The world has lost an icon as surely God could not wait any longer to return one of HIS most unique creations back to HIMSELF.

The world has lost an icon as surely God could not wait any longer to return one of HIS most unique creations back to HIMSELF.

My sincere sympathy and condolences to you and your family. I wish you all the contentment in your heart, as he will greatly be missed by all the lives he has touched.

Love

Wafeed
CAPE TOWN

CELEBRATING THE LEGEND OF
HILDRETH 'HAL'
WALKER JR.



Order of Service

Prelude

“Pastoral Symphony”
Robert Johnson, Jr.

Processional Hymn

“I Am On the Battlefield (For My Lord)”
Jubilant Voices

Words of Greeting

Rev. Victor Cyrus-Franklin

Opening Prayer

Rev. Dr. Jennifer Oliver

The Lord’s Prayer

Dr. Lovette Spears -Lea

Opening Hymn

“How Great Thou Art”
Hymnal #77

Ministry of Music

“Nobody Greater”
Jubilant Voices

The Obituary

(read silently)

Praise Dancers

“Walking”
In His Steps

Scripture

Isaiah 26:3
Rev. Dr. Henry L. Masters

Tributes

(5 persons, 1 minute each)

Ministry of Music

“Just A Closer Walk With Thee”
Jubilant Voices

Scripture

Psalm 46:10
Rev. Cavalain Hawkins

Tributes

(5 persons, 1 minute each)

Ministry of Music

“Jesus is All The World To Me”
Hymnal #469

Scripture

Psalm 27:8
Rev. Paul Hill

Tributes

(5 persons, 1 minute each)

Ministry of Music

“I Know It Was the Blood”
Jubilant Voices

Family Acknowledgement

Nile Stribling

Ministry of Music

“My Tribute (To God Be The Glory)”
Jubilant Voices

Words of Comfort

Rev. Victor Cyrus-Franklin

Ministry of Music.

“Wind Beneath My Wings”
Mortonette Stephens

Commendation, Benediction & Grace

Rev. Victor Cyrus-Franklin

Recessional Music

“The Storm is Passing Over”
Jubilant Voices

Postlude

Pallbearers

George S. Davis, IV
Gyasi Jordan
De Juan Stephens

Justin Walker
Duron Williams
Darius Williams

Honorary Pallbearers

Selah Bell
Dene Castles
Rafiek Fakir
Donovan Martin
Marco Radebe

Storm Rhoda
Sanele Sahuma
Marwaan Shiri
Waleed Toefy
Dr. Eugene Visser

Speakers

Dr. Art Molella
Brian Hagerty
Dr Brian Monicelli
Curtis Silvers, Boule
Darrell Brown
Dr. David Rockwell

Gaila Williams, A-MAN Parent
Mayor James T. Butts
Stanley Stain, Kappa
Dr Seth Potter
Dr. Rob Lemelson

Special Thank You to Everyone!

If you said a Prayer, Sent a Card, Prepared a Meal, Made a call, Came to visit, Sent a donation
and provided love! God's Blessings, Dr. Bettye & Family

In honor of Hal's life and legacy, you may donate to the A-MAN, Inc. STEM Center, Love Education Bldg.
Holman Church, 3320 W Adams Bl., LA 90018

