

Reflections on the Life
of
Cedric Earle Walker

Cedric Earle Walker was born September 9, 1963 in Bronx, New York to Madie Ruth Walker and the late James E. Walker. He graduated from Madison High School in Rochester, New York in 1981. He later attended SUNY Brockport College where he earned his Bachelor of Science and Master's degree in Education. It was while attending SUNY Brockport in the fall of 1986 that he pledged Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. The fraternity's motto, "Culture for Service and Service for Humanity," is a motto that Cedric exemplified. An exceptional Social Studies teacher in the Rochester City School District, he taught at both Monroe and Jefferson High Schools.

Cedric was well known for his love of track and field, and training track champions. In 1986, he became the Varsity Track Coach at Edison Tech High School. In the summer of 1986, he established the Flower City Track Club to help athletes gain more opportunities to compete in the sport in his hometown of Rochester, New York. Through this organization, he trained and developed several renowned track athletes, including Olympic Silver Medalist and National Track and Field Hall of Fame member, Kim Batten. In 1987, Flower City Track Club merged with Southwest Area Neighborhood, also known as SWAN. In 1988, Cedric trained and developed his first National Champion. In 1991, two of his trainees made the National Track Team. In 1993, Cedric coached Franklin High School's Track Team, accomplishing Section V championships, beating records in the 100 meter, 200 meter, 4x400, and 4x100. In the same year, he was highly recognized by the USA Track & Field, for his coaching abilities.

Later, in 2004, Cedric made history while coaching the USA Track & Field Junior Relay Teams, leading them to win four Gold Medals and four World Records. He was also instrumental with USATF on the association level where he served as president of the Niagara Association from 1996 until 2000, having been involved with the organization for the past 20 years. In 2002, he was a charter member on the board of directors for the National Scholastic Athletics Foundation (NASF) where he served until his death. He had become a staple as a manager, assistant coach, or volunteer for TEAM USA at numerous events which included the 2004 Olympic Games and the 2003 and 2005 World Outdoor Championships. Specifically, he served in the following roles: 1993 World University Games Assistant Coach; 1998 World Junior Championships Team Manager; 2002 World Junior Championships Assistant Coach; 2003 World Outdoor Championships Assistant Coach (Sprints/Hurdles); 2004 World Indoor Championships Assistant Coach; 2004 World Junior Championships Relay Coach; 2004 Olympic Games volunteer; 2005 World Outdoor Championships Event Manager; 2006 World Indoor Champ Event Manager; 2011 Pan American Junior Championships Event Manager, and 2012 NACACU 23 Head Manager.

Cedric had a strong faith in God and was a member of Aeon Baptist Church under the leadership of the Reverend Dr. James L. Cherry, Sr.

On January 17, 2003, Cedric married his loving wife, Kimberly Walker, whom he loved very much.

Cedric entered into eternal rest suddenly on Tuesday, March 12, 2013. He is preceded in death by his father, James E. Walker and brother, Kenneth. Cedric's memories are forever cherished by his lovely wife, Kimberly Walker; four children: Marcus, Domineque, Medea and Kevin; four grandchildren; his mother, Madie R. Walker; mother-in-law, Delores White all of Rochester, NY; his brother, Terry of Indianapolis, IN; sister, Myra Cornelius of Atlanta, GA; sister-in-law, Karen Franklin of Rochester, NY; aunt, Gladys Surtles of Birmingham, AL, close friends, Leroy Dixon and Garfield Ellenwood of Rochester, NY, and a host of nephews, nieces, cousins and many friends of the Track and Field world.