



## Trace Waller Sr

January 30, 1963 - January 10, 2022

Trace M. Waller, Sr. was born on January 30, 1963, in Halifax County, Virginia to the late Warren Waller, Sr., and Vernell Word Waller. He departed this life suddenly on January 9, 2022, in Green Cove Springs, Florida, where he resided since 2015.

Trace's parents, along with his 7 siblings, relocated from Halifax County to Newark, Delaware in April 1968.

Trace attended Newark High School where he developed a love and passion for football and basketball, becoming a multi-sport athlete. After graduating high school in 1981, his outstanding ability to play football earned him a scholarship to Delaware State College where he played defensive end for the Hornets. During his matriculation, he joined an African American fraternity called W.I.N.E Psi Phi, which helped promote political awareness and equality. He obtained a Master of Arts in Criminal Justice (Parkwood University), a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice, and an Associates of Arts in Business Administration (American Intercontinental University).

In 1985, Trace began his professional career at the Department of Corrections as a Staff Training Relief Officer. During his tenure, he displayed a commitment to his profession by having over 20 years of perfect attendance and completing several certificate training programs. He excelled in defensive

tactics, fugitive apprehension, and sharpshooting, to name a few of his accomplishments. Trace's colleagues knew him most for his leadership abilities, integrity, and ethical standards. He worked his way up to Correctional Captain and retired after dedicating 30 years to his profession.

Upon retiring from the Department of Corrections, he moved to Florida to be closer to his daughter (Shonda) and granddaughter (Morgan). He remained in the workforce providing security for Brink's armored cars and JaxPort Authority and ultimately became a professional driver for Cowan Systems, with whom he was employed at the time of his untimely passing.

Trace lived his life to the fullest. He was a free spirit and a man of many talents and interests. He really enjoyed being an active member of social groups. In October 2012 he became a Freemason and was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on March 30, 2013. Trace also loved sports cars and motorcycles and enjoyed riding his motorcycle as a member of the Ruff & Ready Motorcycle Club.

An avid Pittsburgh Steeler Fan, he enjoyed watching football, attending football games and tailgating parties. Some of Trace's favorite pastimes were: playing chess, bowling, drawing, throwing horseshoes, and learning the Spanish language.

In the words of one of his close friends, he was "a passionate, positive and intelligent man." He was a beautiful soul with a big heart and an even bigger smile who gave generously of his time and attention, leaving his mark on everyone that he met.

In addition to his parents, Trace was predeceased by his brother, Jessie Waller, Sr., and his sister, Annette V. Earl; He leaves to cherish his memories, son, Trace M. Waller, Jr. of Newark, Delaware; daughters Dr. Shonda Waller of Green Cove Springs, Florida; Tyra Webster of Newark, Delaware, and

Janee Shantelle of Newark, Delaware; grandchildren Morgan Watts, Dez'lynn and Daks Smith; brother, Warren Waller, Jr., (Marvia); sisters, Deaconess Mary Benjamin, Elder Donnie Patrick, Gladys Lockhart, and Sandra Waller; and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and devoted friends

# Cemetery Details

## **Gracelawn Memorial Cemetery**

2220 North Dupont Highway  
New Castle, DE 19720

# Tribute Wall



“ Gore Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Trace Waller Sr



Gore Funeral Home - January 22, 2022 at 11:53 PM

PC

*Going to miss my friend/brother. I can still hear that laugh of his and see that big smile. I thank God that he allowed our paths to cross and become not only friends but family. RIP my brother. You will be forever missed 🙏*

Pammy Carter - January 26, 2022 at 03:49 PM

BH

*Big brother "T" Waller, I will forever miss you. Thank you for everything. You've touched so many people. Remember what I said last we met, you have my vote Mayor. Till we meet again.. Love you bro! Sincere condolences to the family.*

*Barry Hill*

Barry Hill - February 04, 2022 at 11:11 AM

VH

*Man this seems so unreal. Trace from the time i met you some years ago we immediately became family. We spent countless hours talking and enjoying life. You were retired and enjoyed every minute of it and i am glad i was able to be a part of it. I am going to miss having you over for cookouts and football. You allowed me to unload my problems on you when i was going through hard times yet you still encouraged me and you let me know when i was wrong as a true friend. Rest in Peace Friend.*

vincent haynes - February 05, 2022 at 08:44 AM

TC

*I worked with Tra for a many years. First at Staff Training and then at Plummer Center. We had so many good times working all the different prisons. Trace always had a encouraging word when I was down. Never judged. It's funny after he retired he became a truck driver. I was already one. I tried to get him to haul explosives me but he just laughed and said you crazy boy. Anytime I came through Jax I would reach out and meet up. I'll miss you Dawg. I won't say goodbye I'll just say see you again my friend. RIP buddy*

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**Tom Campbell** - February 05, 2022 at 12:55 PM

TC

*Tim Campbell*

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**Tim Campbell** - February 05, 2022 at 12:56 PM

GB

*My condolences to the waller family and the immediate family I hope you guys find peace in your sorrow.i first met Traci when me and my hubby lived on prospect drive years ago he was always humble free spirit and always had a smiley face I did not make it to the funeral my hubby showed up for a while I pray you guys remember all the good times about him 🙏🙏🙏🙏*

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**Gloria Burton** - February 06, 2022 at 08:42 AM



*God bless you my brother and my friend. I miss you more everyday. You have touched many and made many laugh. I know it was your time but that does not make it hurt any less. I will always cherish those memories of us together. You have been a true friend.*

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**Darren Carter** - February 12, 2022 at 10:57 AM

JM

*Hello I AM John in Colombia. Is this trace in Jacksonville fl*

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**John Mattli** - June 21, 2022 at 01:17 PM

SW

“ You are Forever in my heart. Rest easy little brother.



Sandra D. Waller - February 09, 2022 at 01:59 PM

PF

“ Pam and Anthony Perry & Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Trace Waller Sr.



Pam and Anthony Perry & Family - February 05, 2022 at 10:53 AM

VF

“ Vincent and Karen in Florida purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Trace Waller Sr.



Vincent and Karen in Florida - February 05, 2022 at 08:29 AM

FF

“ From Shavonne Bridgeforth and Family purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Trace Waller Sr.



From Shavonne Bridgeforth and Family - February 04, 2022 at 01:48 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Trace Waller Sr.*



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February 04, 2022 at 01:34 PM



“ *Barry Hill & Family purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Trace Waller Sr.*



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**Barry Hill & Family** - February 04, 2022 at 11:20 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Trace Waller Sr.*



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February 04, 2022 at 09:52 AM



“ *Worked with He and Jesse at Plummer. Loved them both. Great to work with and hang out with. My sincerest condolences to his family . May he be rejoicing in the Heavens !*

*Linda Dacey*

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**Linda Dacey** - January 31, 2022 at 03:10 PM

EM

*DEAR. TRACE. REST IN PEACE- Great. Persons are forever remember-when my son. John bright you to my house here in. Jax-I could see my son always looks for nice people to be his friends. My sorrows to all your family. You will be in my prayers- Johns. Mattli mother- Esther Mattli. You will be always on my heart- the. Lord be with you*

Esther Mattli - June 21, 2022 at 04:53 PM

CL

*“ Our sincere and deepest condolences to the family of our dear Trace. Trace was one of our dearest friends. We shared so many laughs, talks and oh the songs. It is so hard knowing he is gone. We are grateful for the gift of his time and friendship and until we meet again, rest high on that mountain. The Love Family*



Christy Love - January 28, 2022 at 09:18 PM

VL

*“ Veronica Lyle lit a candle in memory of Trace Waller Sr*



Veronica Lyle - January 28, 2022 at 08:00 PM

CM

*“ Chrys Mills lit a candle in memory of Trace Waller Sr*



Chrys Mills - January 28, 2022 at 09:06 AM

SC

“ My condolences to the Waller family and friends. May God grant us all comfort and peace from such a great loss. I worked with both Trace and Jessie at Plummer until they both left DOC. Tailgating with both "The Waller Boys", eating chili, dancing at dinner, conferences, we have shared so many memories, learning, laughter, and most importantly friendship,...all of them positive and all with Trace's infectious smile. He was always helpful, always looked out for others, courageous, and had such a beautiful spirit that touched every life he came in contact with. You left us too soon Tray Dizzle. My heart is truly bleeding. People like you make a difference in every life you encounter effortlessly. May you rest in peace, say hello to Jessie for me. I will see you both again, but not yet!

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**S. Sgt. C. Simms/Plummer Center** - January 26, 2022 at 06:54 PM

SC

“ S. Sgt. C. Simms/Plummer Center lit a candle in memory of Trace Waller Sr



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**S. Sgt. C. Simms/Plummer Center** - January 26, 2022 at 06:40 PM

LH

“ My Deepest condolences to the family, very well Love, Always good be be around. definitely going to miss his funny self .

*Our Prayers goes out to family and Love ones*

*David and Latisha Pacheco"*

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**Latisha Hall-Pacheco** - January 26, 2022 at 01:55 PM

MC

“ I knew and worked with Trace his entire 30 years with the DOC. He was an exceptional human being. Always had a smile on his face and a kind word for everyone. He will truly be missed. My thoughts, prayers and sincerest condolences are with him and his family in this time of loss.



*Mike Costello*

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**Michael Costello** - January 26, 2022 at 01:42 AM

AC

“ Praying for peace and comfort for the entire family 🙏🏻



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**Angel Collins** - January 25, 2022 at 04:04 PM

JM

“ Another Great one has left us. Always upbeat and fun!  
Our Prayers go out to Family and Friends.



*John & Kathy Moore*

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**JM** - January 25, 2022 at 03:33 PM

NL

“ Neil Lewis lit a candle in memory of Trace Waller Sr



Neil Lewis - January 25, 2022 at 02:16 PM

FF

“ Faust Family purchased the [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) for the family of Trace Waller Sr.

Faust Family - January 25, 2022 at 02:07 PM

KS

“ Gone to soon, To the entire Waller family heartfelt tears to everyone during this time of sadness. Rest Easy

Love Monroe (Money) Saunders and Family



Kassie Saunders - January 25, 2022 at 01:20 PM

TM

“ Wow! Cap! I am so sorry to hear of your passing. When I got to Plummer back in 02, you were one of the guys that helped show me the ropes of the place. I enjoyed working alongside you and for you. Truly one of the best DOC ever had. Be sure to keep Jesse out of trouble up there- you know how he is! You will be missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing you and working with you. My prayers go out to your family for comfort and peace in this time.

Tony McLellan - January 25, 2022 at 12:30 PM

BB

“ In loving memory of my "BEST MALE FRIEND" my "TREY" you will forever hold a SPECIAL place deep within my heart ALWAYS & FOREVER!! So until we meet again SLEEP EAZY BABY!💔💔💔

Lovely submitted  
Your, BEVVY BEV



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**Beverly Bridgeforth** - January 24, 2022 at 03:08 PM



“ Dee Roy lit a candle in memory of Trace Waller Sr



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**Dee Roy** - January 24, 2022 at 02:26 PM



“ Lois Jones lit a candle in memory of Trace Waller Sr



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**Lois Jones** - January 24, 2022 at 02:16 PM

RS

“ *Roylene S.Anderson lit a candle in memory of Trace Waller Sr*



Roylene S.Anderson - January 23, 2022 at 04:26 PM

LC

“ *Lisa Carter lit a candle in memory of Trace Waller Sr*



Lisa Carter - January 23, 2022 at 01:46 PM

LC

“ *I still can't believe your gone..sitting here thinking about the days if kicking you and Jesse and woody out of my kitchen and tequila.. We had so much fun...RIP Trace..say hey to your Brother for me..My deepest condolences to the wallet family.*

Lisa Carter - January 23, 2022 at 01:45 PM

DR

*Still in shock about your passing Trace...peaceful journey to you as you go on your journey..*

Douglas H Roy - January 24, 2022 at 01:26 PM

MC

*I can't believe you're gone Tray..the last time I seen you ..I remember a great big smile standing in my kitchen. I'm going to miss you. Tell Jesse and Nette to behave themselves up there. Rest easy my friend until we meet again.*

*Martha Clark*

Martha Clark - January 24, 2022 at 04:06 PM

SC

*To the family of Retired Captain Waller, my prayers and condolences to your family, I worked with Waller for a many of years, I can see him now with a tooth pick in his mouth saying, hey girl what you been up too! He was always pleasant to me and always smiling. He will be missed!*

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**SSGT. B. Smith Plumber Corrections** - January 25, 2022 at 09:21 AM

SC

*To the Waller Family, may God grant you peace and comfort during this difficult time. I worked with both Trace and Jessie. We all went to work conferences together, tailgating, and shared many things, dinners, dancing, laughter, learning, support, encouragement, most of all friendship. The Waller men were truly a blessing to have known. They both had kind hearts and beautiful spirits, easy to talk to and willing to help any and everybody with that contagious smile. They will never be forgotten. Rest in peace my friends. Until we meet again.*

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**S. Sgt. C. Simms/Plummer Center** - January 26, 2022 at 06:35 PM

SB

*To the Family, words can't express what I know you feel. My heart and prayers are with you. I will truly miss the visual of his smile and that toothpick he always had in is pocket...RIP*

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**Sgt Boyd** - February 05, 2022 at 10:18 AM