



Walter Anthony Pinion

June 26, 1955 - October 12, 2020

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Walter Anthony Pinion was born on June 26, 1955 in Newark, New Jersey to the Late Joseph Pinion and Eartha Fuller Pinion. Before starting grade school, Walter, who was called Anthony by family members, spent his pre-school years in South Carolina with his grandmother, Ida Johnson, who had a profound influence on his life. One of the first lessons he learned upon entering grade school was his first name was Walter and not Anthony. Walter successfully matriculated through grade school, graduating from Central High School with honors in 1973. He accepted a full academic scholarship to attend the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania where he received a Bachelor of Science in Marketing degree in 1977.

Walter began his professional career with IBM as a Systems Engineer in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. In 1981, he transferred to West Palm Beach, Florida, and for 26 years, Walter held various positions across the country. Walter retired from IBM to pursue his passions of coaching, photography, and entrepreneurship. As owner of Pinion Photography, a member of the Professional Photographers of America, he covered many noteworthy events domestically and internationally. In recent years, the business expanded to include sign/building surveys and designs. At an early age, Walter learned there were two options for dealing with the troublemakers in his neighborhood, fighting or running. He chose the latter and quickly developed a love for the sport.

Walter participated in countless road races, fifteen of which were marathons including the 100th Year Anniversary of the Boston Marathon & nine New York City Marathons. Walter's association with The Atlanta Track Club, Northside Red Runners Track Club, USA Track and Field, and numerous High School track programs availed him the opportunity to coach and mentor many young people. Some of these athletes have been nationally ranked and many received scholarships for college.

Aside from running and photography, Walter had other hobbies and interests that kept him busy and allowed him to integrate his passion for photography & coaching. One of those hobbies was snow skiing. As a member of the Southern Snow Seekers Ski Club he enjoyed coaching the youth spending the summer months dry land training in Piedmont Park and taking trips to the mountains in North Carolina during the winter. Walter was also an avid golfer and a member of the National Negro Golfers Association (NNGA), where he served as the national photographer.

He believed he was a great cook and known for his pancakes, wings, and pork-n-beans with rice. Holiday dinner was not complete without his contribution of rice to the menu. But most importantly, Walter was a Christian who accepted Christ at an early age. He was an active member of Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Roswell, Georgia where he served as a photographer on the media team.

Walter is survived by his wife of 37 years, Logii Barnes-Pinion, daughter, Logii De'Khara Moore (Kehinde) and grandson, Khari Jaimeson Moore. Siblings Kerman Gray, Joseph (Joe) Pinion, Ardelia Pinion, and Kelvin Pinion (Susan). He is preceded in death by two siblings, Nathaniel Fuller and Quincey Pinion. He leaves behind a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins. He will also be missed by numerous friends, athletes, The Posse, and colleagues.

In lieu of flowers, family request donations to the Atlanta Chapter of the National Negro Golfers Association (NNGA) to a scholarship in honor of Walter A. Pinion.

Attn: Atlanta NNGA
C/O: Michael Gayles
1983 Gunstock Drive
Stone Mountain, GA 30087

Events

OCT 23 Memorial Service (INVITATION ONLY) - Live Streamed 11:00AM

Gwinnett Chapel

914 Scenic Hwy. GWINNETT, Lawrenceville, GA, US, 30045

Comments



“ A webcast video has been added.



Gregory B. Levett & Sons Funeral Homes & Crematory, Inc. - October 23, 2020 at 07:02 AM



“ I contacted Walter in the summer of 2019 and hired him to take pictures of our family on occasion of my mother's 90th birthday. I had known Walter previously due to the many times we saw each other during other functions at mutual friends get together. He always had a camera at hand, taking myriads of photographs. It was obvious he had a passion for photography.

Walter came to take pictures of my mother and my family in July 2019 and celebrated with us. Everyone loved him, his smile, gentle manners, sweet and kind disposition. He ate, laughed and took a ton of pictures and stayed and celebrated with all of us the entire day. I remember my family saying this is going to be our family photographer from now on!!! The last time I saw him, he came to deliver the pictures and a beautiful blanket for my mother, which he had produced with pictures of the event. He shared with me pictures of his brand new grand child. He was beaming with joy and pride for his daughter and new grandchild.

I am absolutely heart broken to know that Walter will no longer be with us on this earth.

Logii, I hope you know how much you are in our thoughts prayers. Love, Johan and Jim

Johan Brown - January 22 at 02:40 PM



“ We met back in the pre-freshman summer program at Penn, sharing a love of sports. We graduated as classmates in 1977. Though we went our separate ways, we managed to keep in touch throughout all these years. While Heaven has gained a good and faithful s We made that periodic reconnection to reminisce about old times. While Heaven has gained a good and faithful servant, Walter will be sorely missed here on Earth.

Gary Reynolds, UPenn '77

Gary Reynolds - December 22, 2020 at 03:08 AM



“ I, too, met Pinion during the summer of 1973 before our freshman year. He was one of my first friends. It was with him that I traveled to NYC & Irvington NJ. He introduced me to photography; but, I didn't catch on which, of course, I now regret.

We lost touch when I graduated early. While he worked in my home state of Florida, I stayed in Philly. We reconnected when I retired back to my hometown. I'm so thankful that one of his assignments brought him to NE Florida. We were able to chat & chew over lunch.

Pinion was devoted to his family. He had so many plans for activities with his grandson. Photos were proudly displayed and the pride with which he spoke was unmistakable.

I'm just learning of Pinion's untimely passing and it seems so surreal. After all, once Covid was under control, he, my brother, Joel and I were gonna meet up @ Penn Relays this Spring!

Farewell to the kindest, most authentic guy I've known.

May loving memories be a source of constant comfort to his entire family especially his wife and daughter.

Cyndi White UPenn'76, L'80

Cyndiw - January 04 at 10:32 PM



“ I just heard today about the passing of Walter Pinion. I remember working with Walter while at IBM here in the Atlanta Area. He was such a kind-hearted person who always spoke in a quiet manner. He was the first person to mention to me about an African American group who goes on these annual ski trips! I'm thankful that God allowed him to cross my path while working at IBM. God bless his family and all of those who loved Walter. May he rest in eternal peace.

Delta D. Rawls - October 25, 2020 at 06:35 PM



“ Walter will be missed in so many ways!!! His sweet kind gentle Spirit, his generosity, his gifts and talents, just to name a few. We were so blessed that God allowed us to journey together for a while. One the best decisions I ever made was hiring Walter as the official photographer for my 60th Birthday celebration. Two of my most prized possessions, which are even more special now, are my photograph book of my “Forever In My Heart Ball” and the gift of the tapestry he made with my picture. How precious is his memory and he will be forever in our hearts.



Cheryl Thompson Williams - October 25, 2020 at 11:39 AM



“ Logii an DK,

The measure of a man when all is said and done is in what is left behind at the end ... our posterity. Walter left behind a treasure trove of selfless service to others which will not be soon forgotten!! I've got a few Walter stories myself from his time with me in Swainsboro and then golf, etc. His true measure can only be measured by the creator who welcomed him home ... in first place of course! Blessings.

Kelvin Thompson
Alpharetta, Ga

Kelvin Thompson - October 23, 2020 at 09:03 PM



“ Derrell Martin lit a candle in memory of Walter Anthony Pinion



Derrell Martin - October 23, 2020 at 06:04 PM



“ Sending my condolences. I appreciate all the support Walter gave to the Southern Snow Seekers Ski Club.

Bessie Gay



Bessie Gay - October 23, 2020 at 04:57 PM



“ I will always remember Walter as kind, a quiet leader and a gentle soul. As my sales manager at IBM at the beginning of my career, he taught me how to be a good team player, the power of setting personal and professional goals and the importance of giving back. I am grateful I had the chance to know him. His family is in my prayers and I wish them peace. Trish Hearn

Trish Hearn - October 23, 2020 at 04:55 PM



“ I am just going to wave my hand and say see u later Big Cousin Anthony. Thank you for the time I did spend in your presence. Love you dearly Debra Murray Abraham.



Debra Abraham - October 23, 2020 at 01:15 PM



“ the children of Jacob Murray, James, Debra and Yolanda, would like to express our deepest family to the Pinion Family, we love you Kevin and Susan, and will honor Anthony be supporting the National Negro Golfers Association scholarship fund in Anthony's name.

We are praying for the whole family, may God comfort all who love Anthony and will miss him!

Pastor James Murray - October 23, 2020 at 12:56 PM



“ A Gem of a Man! That's how I describe Walter's selfless nature, his zest for life and his genuine concern for others. We met on the golf course and became fast friends. Walter was my Best Golf Partner.

Sincere prayers & comforting to both Logiis of whom he was very pleased and proud. I imagine there will be some challenging days ahead but know that "you got this".

Peace, Love & Comfort

Thea Johnson

Thea Johnson - October 23, 2020 at 12:14 PM



“ My heart is so heavy.
I pray that Logi and the family will find peace in the wonderful memories of Walter.

My memories of Walter: He is one of the kindest people that I know. He was one of my mentors at IBM. It was my first job out of college and he was so patient and shared so much insight with me to ensure my success. His passion for photography was seen in everything he did. He was going to take the pictures and videos for Keiths birthday party in March, but it had to be cancelled because of the pandemic. What I remember the most was his smile, which was contagious.

Walter, you will always be in our hearts and memories.

Charmaine Ward-Millner



charmaine ward-millner - October 23, 2020 at 11:57 AM



“ Coach Pinion was a true inspiration to the student athletes he mentored. His messages of hope and encouragement were so genuine and sincere. He was a beautiful person with a heart of pure gold. Though I am glad to know Coach Pinion is in the presence of the Lord, the realization that he is gone from this life is difficult to accept. May God continue to comfort and keep the Pinion family. Coach Pinion will truly be missed.

Stefanie Taylor - October 23, 2020 at 11:26 AM



“ Rest in Peace Walter. You will be missed by many. Logii and DeKhara you have our sincere condolences and will continue to be in our thoughts and prayers. May God comfort and strengthen you.

Lisa Sams - October 23, 2020 at 10:47 AM



“ Rest in Heaven, my friend. Sincere condolences to the Pinion family. Please find comfort in knowing Walter's light continues to shine brightly through the many lives he touched. God's peace be with you.

YLonne Swails



YLonne Swails - October 23, 2020 at 08:59 AM



“ May Walter Rest In Peace and may his memory be a blessing. Deborah, Cliff, Miray, Cameron Seward

deborah seward - October 22, 2020 at 10:47 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Walter Anthony Pinion.



October 22, 2020 at 06:56 PM



“ Lorenzo Upshaw lit a candle in memory of Walter Anthony Pinion



Lorenzo Upshaw - October 22, 2020 at 06:06 PM



“ Walter was my systems engineer for the S/34 in Boca Raton, FL. We saw each other again in Atlanta and in Dallas. Always full of jokes and a smile for me when I panicked that the system was unfixable. Well, he always fixed it and never let me or the customers down. He was a savior in many ways. Praise the Lord for his life.

Billie Daniels - October 22, 2020 at 05:06 PM



“ Logii and DK, you are in my prayers. I cannot imagine how tough this is, but I know you guys and Walter knew God, so I am certain HE will provide you all that you need. If God can use my hands or feet to be of service to you and your family, please let me know.

Carolyn Green - October 22, 2020 at 04:26 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Walter Anthony Pinion.



October 22, 2020 at 11:55 AM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Walter Anthony Pinion.



October 22, 2020 at 10:23 AM



“ I coached with Walter on the Northside Red Runners club team and Walter was the photographer at my wife Amanda and my wedding 6 years ago. He was just a great person and friend. RIP Walter. You will be missed

Coach Babb

Coach Charles Babb - October 22, 2020 at 08:26 AM



“ My Best Friend is gone but I also understand that Walter would want me to keep running and keep focus and stay in line I love his daughter and wife truly and if you ever need me I will always be here for you guys love you truly Lynn

Lynn Pryer - October 21, 2020 at 07:51 PM



“ Just found out today that you passed away. Thank you for being a good friend and always capturing the best photos. RIP my friend

Orretta - January 01 at 12:45 PM



“ Sending you my sincerest condolences. You are in my thoughts and prayers

Kathy Saunders - October 21, 2020 at 07:04 PM



“ When it comes to advice Walter was always there for me not only that a good running partner to keep me in line you will be truly missed by every time I put my tennis shoes on and run you be truly remember and the pictures you took of me and me a thousand words forever truly was my best friend

Lynn Pryer - October 21, 2020 at 07:43 PM



“ The 100 Black Men of North Metro Atlanta, Inc. purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Walter Anthony Pinion.



The 100 Black Men of North Metro Atlanta, Inc. - October 21, 2020 at 05:17 PM



“ Walter and I would run Columns Dr as well as Johnson Ferry I enjoyed his energy and family. Mac Stringer

Mac Stringer - October 21, 2020 at 05:11 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Walter Anthony Pinion.



October 21, 2020 at 02:13 PM



“ Walter was Special! I remember him working with a group of us that were training to run the Marine Corps Marathon. For most of us it was our first Marathon. We flew up to Washington, D.C. the day before and when we came down the next morning to head to the race there was Coach Walter!! To our surprise he had flown in and brought his bike with him. So at various spots along the course, there he was cheering us on! That’s how special and caring he was.

Walter was the photographer at my 65th. Birthday party. He got me running a sub 48 minute 10K so I would qualify for the first timed group of the Peachtree Road Races. And he got me on as a member of the Georgia Games Torch Team. I will always cherish our talks, our runs, and just being in his presence!

Sincerely,
Jim Payton

Jim Payton - October 21, 2020 at 01:24 PM



“ Sending my thoughts and prayers to Walter's family. Down here in Mobile,Al. Walter was much more then someone who came in to work the Mobile Challenge of Champions. He was part of our family. We were all fortunate to know Walter. The people who got to meet him here are all saddened. Being a New Jersey and Philly area guy like Walter. we had so much in common besides track. Walter has crossed the finish line with his race of life well done. I look forward to see Walter at my finish line of life with his smile and camera in hand . He is gone physically but remains in our hearts and mind forever. RIP

Steve Schoenewald - October 21, 2020 at 10:54 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Walter Anthony Pinion.



October 21, 2020 at 10:39 AM



“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Walter Anthony Pinion.



October 21, 2020 at 08:37 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Walter Anthony Pinion.



October 21, 2020 at 08:35 AM



“ Our prayers and thoughts are with you.

Yolanda Caldwell - October 21, 2020 at 07:37 AM



“ I've known Walter for over 8 years as I joined the golf group on Saturday. He was so kind and thoughtful. We use to ribbed him as guys do, and Walter would just smile. When we asked him to mentor in photography, he gladly said ok. That is the Walter I knew...always putting others before himself and the kind of guy who walked in a humble spirit.

Rod 19th Hole

Rod Bolden - October 22, 2020 at 10:18 AM



“ Sincere Condolences Logii & DK .Praying for your during this difficult time .
The Jacksons



AdrienneMcGahee- Jackson - October 21, 2020 at 12:35 AM



“ Walt was one of my favorite people as we went through Central High School together. What a wonderful person he was then and as I can see by testimonials he continued to be even after we went in different directions after high school. My families thoughts and prayers to the Pinion family and rest well my brother, you good and faithful servant.

Walt Johnson - October 20, 2020 at 11:59 PM



“ My DEEPEST condolences to the family. I was blessed to have shared time and space with Walter in Philadelphia, at IBM (my office mate), and in our passion for Track and Field. He coached my daughter and always sang ‘Day O’ by Harry Belafonte as she entered practice with him on the river at 6AM each morning. His voice guided her to him.
Walter is grace, passion and dignity to all. Gone too soon. Never forgotten. Thank you Logii and Dekara for sharing him with all of us, especially me. Jacqui Collins

Jacqui Collins - October 20, 2020 at 11:05 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Walter Anthony Pinion.



October 20, 2020 at 10:58 PM



“ This was shocking and tragic news to hear of the passing of our childhood friend who was one third of the three musketeers (Terry, Perry and Walter) . We were like blood brothers. Our relationship started in the 2nd grade at Waverly Ave school all the way to Central high school in Newark, NJ. We shared playing different sports, schools, movies, summer jobs and traveling to Florida. All of our adventures together will never be forgotten. Although we will not be able to attend his home going due to Covid19 our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends.

May you rest in peace, your earthly life and job was well done.

With sincere condolences,
Perry and Terry Gray

Perry Gray - October 20, 2020 at 09:45 PM



“ Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Walter Anthony Pinion.



October 20, 2020 at 09:42 PM



“ Prayers for healing hearts. He was a great friend colleague at IBM and running mentor for my son with the n side red runners and myself

Sue Ball - October 20, 2020 at 09:16 PM



“ I never imagined when I made that call 12+ years ago to ask Coach Pinion about coaching my daughters, that he would become not only a running coach for them, but a life-coach for the entire family! Walter was the most giving and accepting people I have ever known. He was always willing to listen to our concerns and offered sound caring advice when we needed it. He knew just how hard to push the kids, kicked them in the butt when they needed it, and picked them up and offered a shoulder to cry on when their performance was not what they had hoped for. He taught them resilience, self-confidence, the value of hard work and self-discipline--all qualities that Walter exemplified and taught by example.

Coach Pinion told the kids, "keep your head up, and your focus straight a head of you. Run hard all the way thru the finish line!" Walter ran hard through his finish line but before he stopped he sent photos out to his athletes and talked to a few of them on the phone. I suspect he will continue to coach and guide his kids for years to come, and when they least expect it, he will reach out and give them a little push when they need it.

Thank you, Logji and DK, for sharing him with so many of us over the years! He will be dearly missed.

Dee Wetterhall (with Meghan, Maddy, and Scott)

Deborah Wetterhall - October 20, 2020 at 08:47 PM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Walter Anthony Pinion.



October 20, 2020 at 08:03 PM