



Isaac Tremaine Walters

April 23, 1983 - February 22, 2026

With profound love and reverence, we celebrate the life of Isaac Tremaine Walters — a devoted husband, father, son, brother, mentor, author, worshiper, and friend whose life was defined by bold faith, raw authenticity, and unwavering love. Isaac did not live quietly. He lived intentionally. He loved fiercely. He served wholeheartedly.

Isaac was born on April 23, 1983, in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, at Novant Health Forsyth Medical Center, to Jennifer Elaine Walters and Tony Lee McDonald. From the beginning, his vibrant personality and boundless energy made him unforgettable — a loving, inquisitive, and endlessly curious child whose spirit filled every room.

Raised between Winston-Salem and High Point, N.C., Isaac developed a deep spiritual foundation early in life. He learned about the power of prayer and how to “pray down the rafters” from his beloved maternal grandmother, Edna McDonald. His beloved paternal grandparents, Staley and Lozie Mae McDonald ("Mama and Daddy"), and a host of aunts, uncles, and cousins exposed him to a life of hard work, discipline, self-sufficiency, laughter, and unwavering family love — all of which anchored him through both triumph and tragedy.

Isaac shared a profound bond with his siblings. His older sister, DeShema

Walters, was a protector and a steady guiding presence. His younger brother, Ervan “Snook” Betts, Jr., was his shadow and best friend. In 1995, one month after his loving father and step-mother, Zelda McDonald, moved to Atlanta, Georgia, they brought Isaac with them to live permanently. In 2001, Isaac's brother, Tony Jabari McDonald was welcomed into the family. Isaac adored Jabari and formed an unbreakable, special bond.

Athletics became one of Isaac's earliest passions. At just eight years old, his speed and fearless competitiveness drew attention while playing baseball at Jamestown Park. His talents earned recognition in a write-up by the High Point Enterprise News, foreshadowing the drive and dedication that would define him. His love for football and sports resurfaced throughout his youth and early adulthood, guiding him through moments of triumph and challenge.

Yet Isaac's childhood was marked by profound loss. In 1993, he lost his brother Snook and two uncles (Curtis Betts, Jr. and Dwaine Betts) in a devastating car accident. In 1995, he lost two close friends. These experiences deeply shaped him emotionally but did not harden him. Instead, they inspired reflection and creativity. He turned to writing, composing poetry as a refuge — a way to express the emotions he could not yet verbalize. Isaac attended Babb Middle School and later North Clayton High School, eventually graduating from Westlake High School in 2001. He played on both the football and track teams, carrying with him the discipline, drive, and competitive spirit that characterized him. Even as a novice, his early creativity through poetry and writing became a refuge — a spark of what would later become mastery in music and songwriting.

Isaac pursued studies in Psychology at Gordon State College and, at age 23, he placed school on hold to pursue a professional football career. He trained relentlessly, pushing his body to the limits, and though a path to professional football did not materialize, he pivoted to play semi-pro football in Georgia. A

season of optimism was cut short by injuries, but it marked the tenacity and unwavering heart he carried throughout life.

From 2006 to 2014, Isaac found a spiritual family at Word of Faith Family Worship Cathedral. More than a member, he became a son of the ministry — serving under the leadership of Dale C. Bronner, studying the Word, mentoring youth, and learning about spiritual warfare and discernment. He loved the youth, sharpening his biblical knowledge, and serving as a Youth Leader where he invested in building character and faith in young lives.

In 2009, Isaac married Rhonda Freeman, and they welcomed their daughter, Riley Walters in 2010, affectionately known as "Riley Bug" — his heartbeat, his world, and his “why.” Though they later dissolved their marriage, Riley remained his daily motivation to grow, create, and love with intentionality. This period also gave rise to his musical and literary identity as I.K.E. The Writer, where he channeled his creativity into songwriting, raps, and poetry.

In 2015, Isaac connected with artist and pastor Canton Jones and became integral to the creation of FREELIFE — a bold, unfiltered worship movement. Isaac’s leadership, prayer life, and authenticity helped shape a ministry that reached young people in powerful ways, breaking strongholds and reminding them of God’s freedom. He built deep bonds with the Bronner family and others within the ministry, leaving an indelible mark on all who crossed his path.

Driven by his love for youth and sports, Isaac founded King’s Unite, a program creating a safe and fun environment for boys through men to play flag football and fellowship. He proudly hosted the first community event on April 28, 2019, at Rev. James Orange Park, contributing personally to ensure every need was met.

On July 18, 2018, Isaac connected with Elise Chandler, a former classmate from Westlake High School. Their friendship, grounded in faith and scripture, blossomed into love. They married on May 22, 2020, with Pastor Charles McCree officiating, and together built a blended family--with Cavell, Riley, Asher, and Aire--rooted in faith and devotion. Isaac embraced his role as husband with intentional love and as father with unwavering prayer, protection, and guidance. They welcomed Zoe Walters and Isaac (Isaiah) Walters, Jr., completing a family that Isaac cherished deeply.

In 2023, Isaac and his family joined New Life Presbyterian Church, where he became an Elder in Training, participating in church events, outreach initiatives, and servanthood reflective of his preparation for leadership. He formed meaningful relationships and joined a family of believers he deeply respected and loved.

In 2024, Isaac courageously launched Purpose Is Greater, a ministry tackling the taboo subject of pornography addiction. Through a candid podcast, he created a platform that allowed individuals to hear God's message without condemnation and understand that their purpose is greater than any stronghold. He authored two books — "My Purpose Is Greater Than Porn" and "In the Making – Embracing the Journey of Becoming" — sharing his wisdom and experiences with transparency and heart.

Isaac was a servant leader, mentor, prayer warrior, husband, and father. He believed in coming to God as you are — real, honest, and surrendered. He loved boldly, forgave freely, and carried a tender heart beneath his rugged exterior. Through music, writing, mentorship, ministry, and family, he transformed pain into purpose.

Months before his death, Isaac started his own business in the form of a

trucking authority and contract courier business. During one of the final long-haul trucking assignments, unforeseen events unfolded in the form of medical challenges and injustices— marking his last delivery. Despite a valiant fight, his life came to an untimely and heartbreaking end, just a few weeks later, on February 22, 2026.

Though the circumstances were painful, his legacy endures in his children, his wife, his family, the youth he mentored, the men he strengthened, the church he served, the music he created, and the words he wrote.

Isaac Tremaine Walters lived boldly, loved deeply, wrote honestly, worshiped passionately, and served faithfully. His life stands as a testament that purpose is greater, faith is stronger, forgiveness is real, and legacy lives on.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 5. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

New Life Presbyterian Church
6600 Old National Highway
Atlanta, GA 30349-4861

Celebration of Life

MAR 6. 12:00 PM - 12:00 PM (ET)

New Life Presbyterian Church
6600 Old National Highway
Atlanta, GA 30349-4861

Tribute Wall



“ *Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Isaac Tremaine Walters.*



March 01 at 02:35 PM



“ *Blue & White Mixed Half Casket Cover was purchased for the family of Isaac Tremaine Walters.*



February 28 at 11:06 AM