



Mr. Wallace Hiram Mason

October 26, 1955 - January 14, 2021

Wallace “T-Bear” Mason was born in Washington, DC on October 26, 1955, to the late William A. Mason and the late Yvonne S. Mason. Affectionately called “Wally,” he was the third of their five children. He was raised in the Catholic faith, which served as a foundation for his uniquely spiritual life nurtured in biblical teachings and service to others. Later in his life, he became a member of The Church of Christ. Independent from a young age, while living in Germany, Wally wandered off from his mother only to be discovered at a movie theater by himself, enjoying a movie and popcorn, oblivious to the concern he had caused.

Wallace attended Archbishop Carroll and Theodore Roosevelt High Schools. A standout athlete, he was awarded a full scholarship to North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University. Wallace’s academic path was met with a detour when he followed in his father’s footsteps and enlisted in the United States Army. Over the course of three years, Wallace served as a White House Honor Guard and guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Honorably discharged from the Army, Wallace attended Howard University, where he distinguished himself in several areas, such as the Howard football team where he played tight end “number 82” and became a member of the XI Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity. He then received a degree in Computer Information Systems. It was at Howard University that Wallace earned the nickname “The Bear” or “T-Bear”- an endearment he was known by for the rest of his life.

After graduating from Howard University, Wallace was recruited by Aerospace Corporation in El Segundo, California where he worked for most of his career. To enhance his IT education and training, he returned to school, graduating from California State University in 1986 with a master's degree in Computer Information Systems. After many years in the IT space, Wallace pursued his passion for working with youth, teaching for the Inglewood Unified School District in Inglewood, California, before retiring in 2015. His students still remember him by his famous quotes "Don't Talk" and "You Don't Hear Me Though".

Wallace was a man who valued family first and foremost! The heart of his family came from his marriage to fellow Howard University graduate and life-long love, Alva Adams. The couple was married on the campus of Howard University's Law School on November 6, 1987. Through this union, Wallace received his most cherished blessing and gift: his three daughters Ashley (Mohammed Williams), Ella (Cameron Cecil), and Bailey. Wallace adored his family and they celebrated life together in so many ways. As a faithful father, he made it a priority to always make himself available for all family activities, vacations, games, and special events. He further lived out his commitments to the family when he took in and helped raise Alva's younger siblings, Quinton and Shewanna Adams.

Wallace had a large group of people he called family and proudly forged a bond between his brothers, Mark, Alvin (deceased), Theodore (deceased), Don and his siblings by marriage, Quinton, Shewanna, Wendy (deceased), Yvonne, Karen, Antoi-nette, and Betty. Wallace, hands down was the favorite uncle. Uncle Wally's animated tone and sense of humor entertained his nieces and nephews: Belinda, Patricia, Mark II, Janine, Risha, Jaime, Don II, Nicole, Christopher, Jonathan, Jerry, Camille, Nyah, Brenden, and Lil Quint. His arms were wide enough to embrace grand nieces and nephews: Marcus, Brittany, Briana, Jamilah, Mark III, Isaiah, Kierra, and Nina. Following his retirement, Wallace devoted himself to help care for his treasured grandsons Cameron and Cayden while their parents serve as

active-duty officers in the United States Army.

Other dear family members include his stepmother, Helen, his Aunt Esther, his cousins, Carolyn,

Veronica, Jeanette, and Angela, other aunts, uncles and cousins too numerous to name but all truly special. Wallace was known for his compassion and loyalty which he shared generously with those who crossed his path. Family also included his line brothers on the 14Karat Gold, particularly "Dolla" Bill Woodard, whom he spoke with every day, as well as, a host of friends that he loved dearly. Wallace's passions were many: sports (particularly football and cheering on the Washington Redskins), playing dominoes, card games, his immaculate Lincoln Continental, and cooking. His culinary specialties included his renowned pound cakes and chocolate chip cookies. Wallace Mason was a generous man and one of his greatest contributions was the time he spent with family and friends.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JAN 21. 4:00 PM (ET)

Church of Christ
651 Country Club Drive
Fayetteville, NC 28301
hmcolvin@aol.com

Tribute Wall

RW

“ I truly miss my friend, former roommate and football teammate at Howard University from 1977 - 1981.

T-Bear, as we affectionately called him, became my brother on and off the field of play.

One of the things that people do not know about Wallace was that his performance at Tight End his Senior year at Howard caught the attention of Pro-Scouts. As a result, every year the scouts came to a Howard Football game, they'd look at the Tight End position.

Unbeknownst to them, T-Bear was the reason why Jimmy Johnson (former TE with the Washington Team, etc) and Leonard Stephens (former TE with the San Diego Charges, etc) got noticed. He had one of the best seasons of any TE in Howard University Football history and it helped me become the Most Valuable Offensive Player in the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) in 1980.

We both committed students and graduated in 198. We stayed in touch until his passing this year. I'm going to miss our reminiscing about our days at Howard, conversations about what going in our lives and our hanging out at Homecoming almost every year until the pandemic of 2020.

Even though we pledged different fraternities and was over 3,000 miles apart geographically for many years, our friendship grew closer every year. Again, I miss my brother and friend. However, the memories of the life we shared on and off the gridiron will live in my heart forever.

I look forward to seeing him again around the throne of almighty God praising the Lord in all of His glory !!!

In loving memory,

*R. Waldo Wilson
Howard Bison Football 1077-1980*

*MEAC Offensive Player of the Yr. 1980
Howard University Class of 1981*



R. Waldo Wilson - March 02, 2021 at 06:41 PM

MR

“ *My heartfelt condolences to Pat, Ashley, Ella and Bailey on the loss of Wallace (T-Bear) as he has reached the Golden Shore. May God Bless him eternally. Michael Robinson and Family*

Michael Robinson - January 23, 2021 at 11:37 AM