



Walter "Wally" Schad

March 23, 2026

Walter "Wally" H. Schad, 82, of Gulf Shores, Alabama passed away peacefully on Monday, March 23, 2026, after a long illness. He was born on November 9th, 1943, and was pre-deceased by his parents, Walter "Howard" Schad and Julia McQueen; and a younger brother, Michael Schad.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Nancie Elliott Schad; his son Bryan Schad (Heidi); daughter Mary Anne Schad; his grandchildren, Nicholas and Emily. He is also survived by his brother Sam Schad; and bonus family, Alicia Guy (George), and family; Arn Lundquist (Meg), and family; along with a host of relatives and friends who will miss him dearly.

A native of Brewton, Alabama, he graduated from Auburn University in Aerospace Engineering and had a distinguished career with Boeing. He specialized as a Propulsion Engineer contributing to both their military and commercial product lines, interfacing with jet engine suppliers. His last few years at Boeing were dedicated to the preliminary design and performance of commercial engines for Boeing Commercial Airplanes. He had a wonderful passion for people and a sense of humor that was contagious and put everyone at ease. He was also a great mentor to those that he managed. Walt donated years of his life to making life better for others. He dedicated 10yrs to bringing joy into the lives of terminally ill children at Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research in Seattle, as "Walt the Clown".

He was an avid skier and Washington State Ski Patrol EMT for many years. He loved baseball and spent 25yrs volunteering as an umpire for Little

League, High School and College baseball leagues, and taught umpire clinics. He loved to cook both indoors and out and competed in many chili cookoff's and barbecue competitions. He was a fisherman, a sailor, a duck hunter, a runner and an incredibly good and loyal friend to many.

A memorial service to celebrate his life will be held at his home church, First Presbyterian in Brewton, AL on Tuesday, April 7, 2026, with visitation at 10am and service at 11am. He is a current member of Oyster Bay Baptist Church in Gulf Shores, AL

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Tribute Wall

MA

“ I had the privilege of working with Walt at Boeing. He saw things differently and spoke frankly about what mattered, which I always found refreshing. He was unwaveringly supportive and reliable—someone I could count on—yet he kept things light with his playful teasing. That balance of honesty, loyalty, and humor made him both a trusted colleague and a friend.

One small memory I hold dear is an email he sent in response to a request I made for permission to share my views on a technical matter at a conference. I was perfectly prepared for him to say no, but his reply instead gave me a huge chuckle. It's a tiny keepsake, but it captures the spirit and wit of who he was: candid, kind, and never short on personality.

“Absolutely, without a doubt, unequivocally, in no uncertain terms, by all means, beyond a shadow of a doubt, definitely nada, negative, no way, nein, verboten, uh uh, negatory!”

Smooth sailing, Walt - we'll miss you.

Matt Naimi

Matt - April 08 at 03:30 PM

CL

“ I met Walt in the summer of 1965 when we both started working for Boeing. That was the beginning of a long and wonderful friendship. Boeing wise, we pretty much went our separate ways. I had a hard time keeping up what Walt was working on. I know we both were laid off when the SST crashed. We both ended up back at Boeing, but I believe Walt spent a little time with P & W in Florida. While Walt pretty much stayed on the technical side of things I drifted off into Sales Support and then Customer Engineering. But my we had many great times together. Duck hunting, trips to the ocean, building canoes, and two major canoe trips with our wives in Northern Canada. And as you all know Walt was a great cook. He cooked many a fine meal for us. Later in life Bev and I were able to visit Walt and Nancy in Texas, before they lost their home in the hurricane, and we also visited them in Brewton, Walt's hometown. While Walt and I could go a long time without talking to each other, when we did, we would just pick up as if we had just talked last week. It was a friendship that was long and lasting. So, God Bless you Nancy and you have many friends that are grieving with you.
Chuck and Bev Landgraf

Chuck and Bev Landgraf - April 07 at 01:28 PM

LP

“ I've known Wally since 1st grade. I played basketball with him in high school. He was a very good athlete. We learned to play chess together. We both attended Auburn University. I'll miss Wally.

Larry Pearson

Larry Pearson - April 05 at 01:36 PM

JH

“ *John Hillman and Judy Childs*

We had only known Walt for what seemed a short time. We were drawn to him by his unique personality and banter. We shared an interest in sailing, although we were beginners and he was an accomplished sailor. We only recently came to know the real Walt Schad. He had given so much to others without seeking recognition. Our only regret is not having had more time to share with him.

John Hillman - April 04 at 10:50 AM



“ *My husband, Phil and I met Walt at Cap Sante Marina in Anacortes where our boats, In the Mood and Sirena were neighbors. We were members of the Anacortes Yacht Club and cruised the San Juan's and Gulf Islands extensively. But our big adventure with Walt was assisting us sailing our boat to San Diego and ultimately take part in the Baja Haha race to Cabo San Lucas. Not only was he a knowledgeable and skillful sailor, he was a successful fisherman! Walt caught the fish, cleaned the fish and prepared the fish for us as we ventured south! I cherish the times we had together. Blessed be his memory.*

Fair winds and following seas, dear Walt!

Madelyn Case - April 03 at 05:38 PM

KB

“Walt’s love and friendship has been a tether through the years and an anchor in the drifting tides of life.



Over the years we shared great conversations and a lot of good times laughing together, visiting, picnicking, camping, boating, bowling, gathering, and at the many “befores, durings, and afters” of countless baseball games where he and my husband Ken crewed together. From Little League to NBUA, he mentored Ken to be the polished umpire he became and they had a blast honing their craft, working the fields together for many years.

In the late 90s, he showed us what “the good life” really is when we visited him in Palm Beach, Florida. Then we all piled into his Volvo and drove down to waste away in Margaritaville for the rest of the week. What a great trip that was!

Walter has been a rock-solid friend and a good buddy since the first day we met him. Indeed, we will miss him dearly.

But his Light has not gone out. He just carried it with him onto the next phase of his journey. And he left some of it shining deep within each of us. ✨

We offer our heartfelt condolences to Nancie and the family. 💖

Kathleen* & Ken Bacon

Kathleen & Ken Bacon - April 01 at 06:44 PM

DJ

“ I was blessed to work with Walt at Boeing during the 1990's and into the early 2000's before I retired. He was supporting our many preliminary design efforts to design the next new Boeing commercial airliner with his propulsion group. I will miss his leadership skills, his work ethic, and his knowledge as he led his propulsion team members. Many of his friends including me will miss him and remember one of the "good guys" fondly. Our sympathy goes to his family. We have donated to St. Jude in Walt's name.

Duane and Ladessia Jackson

Duane and Ladessia Jackson - March 31 at 09:11 PM

DJ

“ I have wonderful memories of working with Walt at Boeing. He supported our preliminary design efforts as we worked together on designing the next Boeing new airplane in the years 1900 into the 2000 time period. He was one of the "good guys" and I will miss his very helpful attitude, his work ethic, and his knowledge as he led the engineers in his group to do the right things. Many will miss you my friend, and much sympathy to the family. We have donated to St. Jude in your behalf.

Duane and Ladessia Jackson

Duane and Ladessia Jackson - March 31 at 08:48 PM

JK

“ Walt hired me to work at Boeing and brought me out to Seattle many years ago. He taught me many things, most importantly the value of perspective and living your best life. I'm deeply saddened to hear of his loss. Thanks for everything, Walt. Rest in peace.

Jill Kelly - March 31 at 04:35 PM

AM

“ I worked at Boeing as an office administrator (OA) for Product Development for many years and interacted with Walt often. He was such a pleasure to help and just chat with! My condolences to his family and close, I know he will be dearly missed. Anita Mero

Anita Mero - March 31 at 03:37 PM



“ I was lucky to work with Walt. He was funny, caring and very smart. He was always quick with help for a problem or a something funny to say. Walt made a hectic work day go by quickly. My heart goes out to his family at this difficult time.

Diana Manning - March 30 at 10:55 PM

GB

“ A year or two ago I was alone on my sailboat heading out of the SBB marina when I ran aground at the entrance. I tried to get through it but couldn't. The tide was rising so I just had to wait. I was only 12 to 15 ft from the finger piers. Walter apparently saw me and came down to see what he could do. Not much anyone could do but wait. So he stayed down there and we talked about anything and nothing for about 45 minutes. Eventually the tide rose high enough I was able to get out. However, I appreciated him taking the time to hang out and pass the time with a mildly stranded fellow sailer. Thank you, Walter.

Gary Bellis - March 27 at 06:37 PM