

**DUNCAN WALTON OBITUARY**'His greatest impact was on the people around him' Duncan Edward Walton died on September 30, 2022, at his home in Oak Bluffs, MA, surrounded by his loving family. He was 94. He was born in Jersey City, N.J., in May 1928, the only child of William and Ella Walton. He received his undergraduate degree from Long Island University in 1949 and, in 1951, earned an MA in educational psychology from New York University. He served honorably in the U.S. Air Force. In 1956, he completed his Ph.D. at Adelphi University, the first African American to earn a Ph.D. from its Institute of Advanced Psychological Studies. Duncan served as Assistant Chief Psychologist at the Veterans Administration Hospital in East Orange, N.J., where he developed a diversity training program for the staff. He then became the Director of Counseling and Associate Professor of Urban Planning at Livingston College, Rutgers University, and served as Associate Professor in Counseling Psychology at the Graduate School of Education (GSE), with a joint appointment at the Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology. He became the Program Director at the GSE and changed the department's focus to multicultural psychology and family psychology, significantly increasing Black and brown representation within its faculty and students. After retiring in 1998, he was awarded the rank of Emeritus Professor. Duncan was committed to advancing human rights and worked with NAACP and CORE. In May 2006, New Jersey City University presented him with an honorary doctorate. In November 2019, the New Jersey Psychological Association presented him with a Lifetime Achievement Award. His greatest impact was on the people around him. He mentored many students, even beyond their graduation. He also maintained a private practice for many years. In 1956, Duncan married Jean DeLaine. They raised four children before divorcing in 1981. In 1983, he married Jocelyn Coleman Williams. They celebrated the importance of family as they united the children from their previous marriages. Their loving, caring relationship was evident to all. Since the late 1950s, Duncan had special ties to Martha's Vineyard. This was a favorite vacation spot and was where he met Jocelyn. In 2003 they built their retirement home on family property at Coleman Corners in Oak Bluffs. After retirement, Duncan and Jocelyn split their time between Maryland and Martha's Vineyard, where they eventually retired full-time. Duncan was a man of many interests. He enjoyed sharing current news items, humorous jokes, and anecdotes via email. He and Jocelyn enjoyed vacationing, especially in warm climates. An avid duplicate bridge player, he was active with the Bridge Club of Martha's Vineyard, Island Bridge Club, and The Y-Bridgettes. He was a modern jazz enthusiast and sports fan. Saxophonist Lester Young and the Cleveland Cavaliers and Rutgers football and basketball teams were his favorites. Duncan's humor, laughter, loving nature, and hugs will always be remembered and cherished. He had a quiet faith. In the weeks before his death, he prayed for his children and shared communion with them. He is survived by his beloved wife Jocelyn; children Brian and his wife Sylvia, Steven and his wife Angela, Janet and her husband Miguel, Debra and her husband Eric; stepson Kyle; and grandchildren, Victoria, Steven Jr., Brian Jr., Monica, Kendall, Jelani, Rena, Veronica, Elijah, Daniel, and Caleb. He was predeceased by his stepson, David, and is survived by David's wife Angela. Memorial services will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. on Nov. 20 at The Rutgers Club in East Piscataway, N.J., and on May 20, 2023, at the Portuguese American Club, Oak Bluffs, MA from 1 to 4 p.m. Memorial contributions can be made to the New Jersey Association of Black Psychologists at [njabpsi.org](http://njabpsi.org/) and 50 Church Street, Suite 102, Montclair, N.J. 07042.