



WINIFRED "WINNIE" DUNCAN WALTER

April 8, 2026

Winifred (Winnie) Duncan Walter

July 11, 1952 - April 8, 2026

Winifred (Winnie) Duncan Walter, 73 of New Castle, passed away April 8, 2026. Winnie met her husband of eight years, Martin Walter, in Germany, and they have been inseparable.

They took numerous trips to Germany's neighboring countries. Winnie and Martin, along with their shelter-rescued dog, Tasso, took many walks along the trail to the creek and at Fenwick Mines. Winnie loved nature and growing flowers in her yard and on the porch.

Winnie's parents and brothers all served in the U.S. Navy, and Winnie served her country teaching at Patch American High School for 43 years through the Department of Defense in Stuttgart, Germany.

Winnie loved teaching, traveling, and spending time with family and friends. She had a knack for finding unusual gifts that made everybody smile. After their retirement, she and Martin made their home in New Castle. Winnie said many times, "where everybody knows your name." Winnie was an active member of Saint John the Evangelist Catholic Church in New Castle and served God by doing whatever needed to be done at the church, from

watering plants to cleaning and cooking for their monthly meals.

She also loved working with the Craig County Library and volunteered for many activities in Craig County. Her contagious laugh and empathy for others will be missed by many.

Winnie is predeceased by her parents, R. Sherdine and Frances Duncan; grandparents, E. S. and Ida Duncan; mother-in-law Gisela Walter.

She is survived by her husband, Martin Walter.

Two brothers, Richard (Sherry) Duncan and Wayne (Loretta) Duncan.

Niece, Crystal (Shawn) Springer; nephews, Bruce (Heather) Duncan and Eric Duncan.

Great-Nephews, Luke Springer, Thomas Springer, and Kellen Duncan; Great-Niece Kerrighan Duncan.

Family will receive friends from 6-8 PM Monday, April 27, 2026, at Paitsel Funeral Home. A Funeral Mass will be held 2:00 PM Tuesday, April 28, 2026, at the St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church.

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **27**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Paitself Funeral Home
286 Main Street
PO Box 326
New Castle, VA 24127
(540) 864-5142
paitselfuneral@aol.com
<https://www.paitselfh.com>

Funeral Mass

APR **28**. 2:00 PM (ET)

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church
99 Second Street
New Castle, VA 24127

Tribute Wall



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of WINIFRED "WINNIE" DUNCAN WALTER.*



April 24 at 02:11 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of WINIFRED "WINNIE" DUNCAN WALTER.

April 24 at 02:11 PM



“ *Daphne, Cindy, and Barbie purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of WINIFRED "WINNIE" DUNCAN WALTER.*



Daphne, Cindy, and Barbie - April 22 at 05:51 PM



“ *Daphne, Cindy, and Barbie planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of WINIFRED "WINNIE" DUNCAN WALTER.*

Daphne, Cindy, and Barbie - April 22 at 05:51 PM

AW

“ I'm so sorry to hear of Winnie's passing. I hadn't seen her in many years but I have many fond memories of the fun times we had in high school. She was the sweetest girl. My sincere condolences to her family and friends

Alice Williams - April 22 at 11:53 AM

TG

“ Winnie..... one of the nicest people I was lucky enough to have the opportunity to meet in my lifetime. Tina & Ricky Giebner and family



Tina Giebner - April 18 at 08:37 AM

JD

“ 20 years of lunch bunch with Winnie and many wonderfully organized events; Christmas Parties, fest visits when we still danced on the tables, and more at Patch And Stuttgart High Schools in Germany. We miss her joy.

Jim Danielson - April 18 at 02:46 AM

BR

“Winnie and I shared a Chemistry / Physics classroom for somewhere around 30 years. She was a wonderful teacher and a good friend. Even though we have not had much contact the last few years, she will be missed. She was always there when anyone needed help. Both students and colleagues could come to her at any time. She wrote a newspaper ad. in German once while we were looking for a new house. She even called the German Rathaus to help with the taxes on our home. We were constantly moving science equipment and supplies from lab to lab to keep the science department running. She also holds the distinction of being the only teacher to have taught military kids at all three of the DoDEA High Schools in Stuttgart, Germany. She attended most of our kids’ birthdays when they were young, even talking Martin into playing the character of Hagrid (Master of Keys) at one of the Harry Potter parties. As a founding member of the Patch High School Social Committee, she arranged for gifts for those transferring / retiring as well as those who had lost a loved one. Following are the Facebook posts from the Stuttgart and Patch alumni groups. It is easy to see that Winnie was loved, respected and appreciated by her students and colleagues. The list of names are the students (and a few teachers) who responded with a “Sad” or “Care” emoji after hearing this news. I’m thinking wherever Winnie is now, she is entertaining everyone around her with some “Elephant’s Toothpaste” or “Exploding Gummies.”

John Alvarez del Castillo - I was just talking about her. Thanks for letting us know.

Donna Van Pelt Britton - My condolences to her family and friends
Thomas Barthmus - Thanks for sharing this Mr Rehwaldt. Man this is so tough to see. I love that we all stayed in touch after graduating high school so many years ago and Ms Zekel was truly one of our favorites. Somewhere right now she’s still laughing at all the dumb things we did in her classroom and at the dreams of “American Candies.”

Daena Parry Mouso - The funeral will be in New Castle, Virginia (outside of Roanoke)but details are not posted yet.

Pam Prather - Just checked - about 3 hours from me.

Pam Prather - Please make this sharable- there are many alumni who are not on this page.

Herta Madder - I had Miss Duncan year for Chem (85-86). Prayers for her family.

Jimmy Gorham - Sorry to hear this, but thank you for sharing. I also appreciated her as a chemistry teacher.

Caroline Cole - Ms. Duncan was a great Chemistry teacher. I loved her class.

Colleen Quinlan Simpson - Sad to hear. She was my chemistry teacher. May she rest in peace.

Jim Heffernan Jr

So sad to hear of her passing. Met her at a faculty meeting her first year at Stuttgart and found out we had both been at Va. Tech at the same time. Our condolences to her family.

Thomas Van Houten - Yet another reminder that we aren't high school age anymore.

My deepest condolences to the family

Mark Parenti - A wonderful teacher. Very patient and supportive.

RIP

Michelle Valdes - Oh, I miss her!

Brad Rehwaldt - April 15 at 01:37 PM

“ Facebook Messages Continued:

Katherine Misker Di Crocco - I took chemistry with Ms. Duncan in '82-83. She was a great teacher! I'm often in that general area and would appreciate the funeral details if anyone sees them. Thank you!

Brian Henderson - Sending condolences to the family of Ms. Duncan she was a great teacher and in general a great person.

Carol Heffernan - So sorry to hear about Winnie! What a wonderful lady and colleague.

Johanna Sweet - Wow! I live in Roanoke VA. I wish I had know she lived so close. I take my kids and walk Fenwick Mines. I wish we had ran into each other. It's crazy how your teacher so many years ago in Germany was living right near you and you never knew. Sending my love to the family!

Kenneth McDaniel - One of my favorite teachers. She was what education was all about. She taught more than what was in any text book. She taught life. Rest easy Ms. Zekel.

Stephen Mydosh - From the 1982 yearbook, but the picture is from her (my) class with her.

Stephen Mydosh - She was such a caring teacher and person. I remember her calling me aside one afternoon after Chem class to have a heartfelt talk about some issues I was going thru - 1981-1982 PATCH. RIP Ms Duncan!

Carrie Campbell - I had Ms Zekel for Chemisty and loved her class! I will never forget pulling out the fire blanket while we mixed chemicals together that "might explode" and those chemicals left their mark on her ceiling! So sad to hear this news. Prayers to her family.

Jose Whulo Lopez - She will be truly missed may you rest in peace. You're a great teacher.

Randall H. Galey - Prayers

Daniel Frantal - Thank you very much for sharing this (as well as for your joyful and interestingly held science classes), dear Mr. Rehwaldt. From my heart I send condolences to her family and friends and am grateful for her being among us and for her

dedication, which both are very well noticed and appreciated by our source of all life.

Tanja Cotton - Oh no! Prayers

Pam Prather - Oh my. Winnie was my chemistry teacher 79-80 at Patch. Rest in Peace.

Porter Broyles - Oh no... so sad.

John Mincemoyer - My condolences to her family. I used to pester her in Chemistry class with all sorts of questions.

Tameka Davis - Thank you for posting this. I remember Ms. Duncan. Prayers for her family.

Brad Rehwaldt - April 15 at 01:36 PM



Danke für den nette Nachruf von Euch für Winnie, dass tut mir richtig gut wenn ich so was lese mein herzlichen Dank für die ganze schöne Nachrufe von Winnie. Ihr Ehemann Martin

Martin Walter - May 16 at 09:35 PM

“ Facebook “Care” or “Sad” Posts on PHS and SHS Alumni Pages:

*Kathy Wooten Hale Caron Osberg Gloria Stumme
Kathy Hammond Kelley Passman Donna Van Pelt Britton
Terry Brooks Mason Cyndi Carson Waldemar Cherish Carpenter
Kristy Bell Gloria Stumme Amelia Gagnon
Karmen Graves Ingraffia Kenneth McDaniel Colleen Quinlan
Simpson
Mandy Millsap Sharon Venzke Whitney Marti
Tim Wilson Katherine Misker Di Crocco Stephen Mydosh
Todd Luther Linda Harper Slaton Susie Crotty Howe
Scott Johnson John Redmond Jonathan Cox
Kristin Markussen Karcher Jerry Custin Herta Madder
Matt McGraw Jose Whulo Lopez Thomas Van Houten
Stephanie Dennis Hall Michelle Lambka Finnen Brian Henderson
Karen Winkle Robert Neitzel Christina Wilson Bowers
Andrew Misker Angela M. Smith Lorrie Piatt
Fran Smith Jesse D'Amato Tasha H Saylor
Lisa Gray Schreiner Lani Norris Marcinda Joye Jeter Clements
Loren Jones Jeffrey Miller Brierley Ostrander
Nanette Misifus Bryon Lape Vincent Moore
Faith Lewis Getty Kimberly Rose Fajardo Matt Dickson
Bekah Silva Sarah Knox-Greenberg Tommy Bowles III
Caryn Stachelczyk Harbour Swan Myers Chantal Gabrielle
Daena Parry Mousso Douglas Paul Whalen Megan Bannan
Tony Graziano Cyndi McClure Harper Karen Barabad Harkins
Victor Ellis Rita Entwistle Jenny Maddocks Stilley
Ernie Thorpe Paul Nichols Jimmy Gannon
Jackie Leeling Clarke Kristy Ricketson-Crosby Michael Vernon
Shannon Geary Kimberley Viraco David Taylor
Joan O'Brien Landmesser Bob Wolfe Deborah Boskovic
Robert Weibel Deb Foye Albert Jesse Easter
Patricia Hein John Alvarez del Castillo Kenneth Joshua Sr.
Katrinnia WA Jose Whulo Lopez Zoe Turner
Fitzgerald Cole Andrew Misker Jack R. N. Duquette
Dallas J Miller Vicki Neidhardt Rowan Kelly Gilliam Dotson
Shon Glover Lynn Dooley Sandy Liles Coley*

*Sean Lambert Luis J Pagan Anthony OBaner
Jacquetta Palmer Jen Eckberg Massaviol Jeannette Sander
Beckmann
Natalie Camp Linda Lockett Robin Routh McAfee
Katherine Mace Roberge Danita Kesner Hill Sue Shaw
Joyce Clark Kimberley Viraco Therisa Buckley Meinecke
Michele Wilson Rick Terry Jamel Hudson
Penny Welch Baute James LoneWolf Stubbs Susan G FL
Mark Titmas Jeanine Merrill Monica Titmas Richards
Michael Baxley*

Brad Rehwaldt - April 15 at 01:35 PM

“ To the family, friends, hundreds of fellow teachers, the thousands of students, and all those who knew and loved our Dearest Winnie: I was a colleague of Winnie for 15 years. My students in special education and I began many early first period mornings delivering the Stars & Stripes newspaper to Winnie in her classrooms at both Patch and Stuttgart American High Schools. Winnie, being a kind, empathetic soul, always set all of our students immediately at ease. A twinkle emanating from her eyes and a smile from her lips, she enthusiastically made time to greet every student with positivity and charm. Over the years, I had the pleasure of witnessing Winnie teach in her classroom and work one-on-one with students. Winnie was a master teacher and a true professional. She wore the hat of teacher for decades, instructing the youth of America, albeit, not ordinary American youth. Winnie taught American youth whose families worked overseas for the Department of Defense. These are students who are being raised away from their motherland, who experience life and the world a bit differently than most American teens. She dedicated the biggest portion of her life to working with these kids. She was the mentor, the confidante, the shoulder to cry on, the voice of assurance, the support, and the unconditional love for both her students and colleagues. Winnie was the one teacher everyone loved. Over the years, far too many of us to count hoisted liters of beer and glasses of wine at Stuttgart Festivals, Winnie sitting at our shared fest tables. Winnie loved to share “Gemütlichkeit” and “Prost” everyone. I can hear her laughter, sitting next to Martin, a huge smile and a great big Maß in her hands, loudly singing fest songs. German being her second language, she helped many of us out with German translations and cultural misunderstandings. Winnie was instrumental in finding a private location for us to practice yoga when our regular practice at the base gym was disrupted. An enthusiastic yogi, Winnie practiced with her fellow yogis and myself, three times per week for several years. She was the reason many of us smiled when maybe we weren’t feeling particularly smiley. Winnie was the teacher I knew I could roll my eyes to and get a similar response during long, drawn out faculty meetings and teacher trainings. Rehashing especially

attentively difficult meetings with Winnie made us both feel better, sharing a laugh together. Winnie was special to me on countless levels. She was the high note in a crazy day, which Secondary School teachers will tell you, is always a crazy one. Winnie was great fun to be around and never took herself too seriously. She will be fondly remembered and sadly missed by all of us. My condolences to Martin, her family, her friends, her students, her colleagues, and all those whose lives have been blessed to have been touched by Winnie.

Jeff Chicoine - April 15 at 10:45 AM

RE

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Rebecca - April 15 at 04:13 AM

DP

“ Deborah Parsons lit a candle in memory of
WINIFRED "WINNIE" DUNCAN WALTER



Deborah Parsons - April 14 at 04:17 AM

DM

“ Winnie was a wonderful cousin. She was always the same sweet person every time I saw her even though she had traveled the world. There was no putting on airs or bragging from her. We enjoyed swimming in Johns creek and walking to town to browse the little stores. One summer when Uncle Sherdine was stationed near Maryland we spent a couple of weeks together there swimming, shopping and even pierced our ears. She was so brave when I did hers, but could not bear to put a needle through mine. She was just too tender hearted. She always came bearing gifts at Christmas and remembered each birthday. I especially treasure a beautiful vase and set of note cards with copies of her water color prints on them. She will always hold a special place in my heart. Sending love and prayers to Martin and all of her loved ones.

Daphne McDaniel - April 13 at 02:49 PM

TB

“ Ms Zekel is one of my favorite teachers of all time and her ability to connect with us back in the 80s was unparalleled. We had so much fun and played the best pranks on her and her group of fun loving fellow teachers. If you would have asked me in high school in 1989 if I would ever stay in touch with my teachers I would have said hell no. But we did and her passing triggered a flood of amazing memories from the paper fish we cut out and put on the aquarium in the classroom to the constant jokes of “American Candies.” She was one of a kind and she will be missed by so many. My most sincere condolences to her husband and her family and all the DODDs friends that she graced with her presence.

Thomas Barthmus - April 12 at 02:12 PM

LM

“ Linda McCroskey lit a candle in memory of WINIFRED "WINNIE" DUNCAN WALTER



Linda McCroskey - April 12 at 08:01 AM

PD

“ Patricia Shires Duncan lit a candle in memory of WINIFRED "WINNIE" DUNCAN WALTER



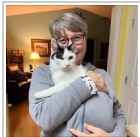
Patricia Shires Duncan - April 11 at 09:21 PM

PC

“ Peggy Myers Cook sent a virtual gift in memory of WINIFRED "WINNIE" DUNCAN WALTER



Peggy Myers Cook - April 11 at 04:33 PM



“ Winnie and I waited for the bus together at Granny's house. I loved when we had after school snacks at Granny's before I went home. I really missed her when she went to college. With all her travels and experiences, she always remained the same caring, warm, and engaging person, and you just felt comfortable with her. She will be missed by everyone who knew her. My heartfelt sympathy to all her family, loved ones, and friends.

Cindy Johnson - April 10 at 08:02 PM

BL

“ 1 file added to the album family photo



Barb Lipes - April 10 at 07:57 PM

BL

Winnie was the kindest and most patient cousin a bratty little girl could have. I have so many treasured memories of Christmases and fun times at our Granny's. I always admired her courage moving all the way to Germany to make her life. Sending all my love.

Barb Lipes - April 10 at 08:00 PM

PC

Love the picture

Peggy Myers Cook - April 11 at 04:29 PM



“ *I've never known many people who are as thoughtful and caring as Winnie. We have lost a dear friend and family member. Many prayers for you all.*

Becky Francisco - April 10 at 04:47 PM

AP

Winnie and I took many trips together when I was at Patch HS. The Friday night dinners at the Greek Restaurant. I feel privileged to have known Winnie.

Ann Rae Peterson - April 13 at 12:08 AM



“ Garden Accent - "Those we have held..." was purchased for the family of WINIFRED "WINNIE" DUNCAN WALTER.



April 10 at 04:44 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of WINIFRED "WINNIE" DUNCAN WALTER.

April 10 at 04:44 PM