



Reginald B. Betts

September 14, 1947 - September 10, 2025

Reginald's Story

On September 14, 1947, in Chicago, Illinois, God blessed this world with the life of Reginald B. Betts.

From an early age, he had a spirit of determination. After graduating from high school, he attended Malcolm X College and soon began building a life that reflected his love for people and his community. He ran a neighborhood newspaper stand, giving young boys the chance to work and learn responsibility. His enterprising spirit led him to invest in several businesses over the years, including a vegetarian health company.

On January 3, 1977, he proudly joined the Chicago Police Department, dedicating more than 32 years of service to this city. He retired on November 1, 2009, leaving behind a legacy of courage, integrity, and devotion.

Having accepted Christ at an early age, his faith remained a guiding force throughout his life. In his leisure time, he enjoyed playing racquetball and tennis, as well as traveling and exploring the world around him.

After a rich and rewarding life, on September 10, 2025, surrounded by his children, siblings and devoted friend, Reginald was called home. He was preceded in death by his mother Rosie Lee Betts, sister Rosarita Betts, and brother Wesley Betts.

Left to honor his memory are his children Reginald Young and Heather (Johnnie) Walker. Grandchildren Reginald Young Jr., Randy Young, Vanessa Mendez Young, Mercedes Young, Reign Young, and JT Walker. Great-granddaughter Makaylah Mendez. Brothers Micheal Betts, Gino Betts, and Gregory Betts. Sisters Gwendolyn (Sam) Morgan, Brenda Williams, and Stephaney Betts. Devoted friend Beverly Christmon and a host of nieces, nephews, family members, and friends.

Reginald was more than his accomplishments—he was a father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, and friend. He will be remembered for his unwavering work ethic, generosity, and sound advice. Though we will miss him deeply, we celebrate the gift of his life and the many ways he touched ours.

Cemetery Details

Oak Ridge Cemetery

4111 Roosevelt Road
Hillside, IL 60162

Previous Events

Public Viewing

SEP **26**. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Calahan Funeral Home - Legacy Center
7046 S. Halsted
Chicago, IL 60621

Visitation

SEP **27**. 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Calahan Funeral Home - Legacy Center
7046 S. Halsted
Chicago, IL 60621

Funeral Service

SEP **27**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Calahan Funeral Home - Legacy Center
7046 S. Halsted
Chicago, IL 60621

Burial/Interment

SEP **27**. 1:00 PM - 1:30 PM (CT)

Oak Ridge Cemetery
4111 Roosevelt Road
Hillside, IL 60162

Tribute Wall

TB

“ My sincere condolences to the family, Reggie was a hardworking, kindhearted, soft spoken gentleman. He was an excellent father to my great-neice Heather Bew Walker. May God hold you Reggie in His loving arms and may the Almighty continue to strengthen your family in this time of sorrow. Prayers with love, Teresa Ann Bew-Layne

Teresa Ann Bew-Layne - September 26, 2025 at 01:32 PM



“ Joyful Memory was purchased for the family of Reginald B. Betts.



September 26, 2025 at 12:16 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Reginald B. Betts.

September 26, 2025 at 12:16 PM

SB

“ Sheila Bew purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Reginald B. Betts.



Sheila Bew - September 24, 2025 at 10:38 PM



“ *In Peace May You Leave The Shore, In Love God Let You Rest, Safe Passage On Your Journey, Until Out Final Trip Above The Clouds!!!! May We Meet Again...: THANK YOU FOR BEING MY DAD..... Shy.....:*

Schioynn Jones - September 24, 2025 at 08:06 PM

RM

“ *Sending prayers of comfort to the entire Betts Family during this difficult period. Our families have been connected for many years. Our mothers were lifelong sister/friends. The memories of their bond are PRICELESS!!! May God continue to bless and keep you safe in His arms. Sincerely, Rita Johnson/ McNeal and Wilson(Fess) Johnson*

Rita Johnson McNeal - September 23, 2025 at 03:57 PM

GB

Thanks for your Kind words of comfort.

Gino Betts - September 23, 2025 at 04:20 PM