2026 DC HURT WALLER REUNION INFORMATION

Hello Family,

The DMV (DC, Maryland & Virginia) Reunion Committee is excited to host the 2026 Hurt Waller Family Reunion July 16-19. It's less than one year away and we believe the DC metropolitan area is uniquely positioned to provide our family with many amenities to enjoy during your stay in the Nation's Capital. Besides the African American Museum of History and Culture, there are other Smithsonian museums on the National Mall, a variety of monuments including the MLK, Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials, several waterfront developments such as the District Wharf, the National Harbor, and the Alexandria Virginia Waterfront, minutes from **our host hotel, The Westin Alexandria Old Town in Alexandria, VA**. The hotel is located 6 miles from the National Mall and 5 miles from the Reagan Washington National Airport.



Below is information about 1) Reunion Program and Registration, 2) Hotel information and Reservation link, 3) Things to do in Metro DC and 4) FAQs. *A 2026 reunion website is coming soon for you to pay reunion fees and access current and future information about the reunion.*

Reunion Program

- Thursday, July 16 -Welcoming Reception The 2026 Hurt Waller Family Reunion will start Thursday afternoon, July 16 with a reception for attendees in the Edison Room at The Westin Hotel Alexandria Old Town, our host hotel. The reception will run from 3-7p, food/beverages will be served, and music will be provided. Planning is underway for a card party in the same space following the reception.
- Friday, July 17- African American Museum of History and Culture Tour, Free night Buses will depart from the hotel no later than 8:15a to arrive at the

museum promptly at 9a. Breakfast boxes will be served on the buses. We will depart from the museum at 1p and arrive at the Anacostia Park in Washington DC for our **Hurt Waller Reunion Picnic** no later than 1:30p. The picnic will be catered by local DC businesses and activities will include the gaming truck, children games and music. We are renting tents, primarily for our seniors, for protection from the summer heat. The picnic will end around 4p with plans to arrive at the hotel no later than 5p. Friday evening will be a **free night** for individual families to explore the many offerings in the DC Metro Area. See *Things to Do in Metro DC* section in this email.



- Saturday, July 18 Hurt Waller Business Meeting and Free Day The business meeting will be held from 9-10:30a in the Wright Room at the hotel and a light breakfast and coffee will be served. For those not attending the business meeting, we recommend you start your free day early to provide enough time to return to the hotel to prepare for the banquet. The Reunion Photo will be taken at 6:00p, followed by the Hurt Waller Banquet at 6:30p in the Edison Room. It will be buffet-style dinner along with tea and water. The hotel will offer a cash bar. After the banquet program and dinner, let the dancing begin!
- Sunday, July 19 Depart the 2026 Reunion

Reunion Registration Information

The Reunion Committee has worked hard to keep the cost of the reunion affordable while not jeopardizing the quality of our reunion. As in past reunions, reunion fees will be tiered as shown below reflecting an early bird fee if paid before Dec 31, 2025 and a regular fee afterwards.

• Attendees 16+ \$285, after Dec 31 regular fee \$300

Ages 11-15
Ages 6-10
\$235, regular fee \$250
\$135, regular fee \$150

• Kids under 6 Free

Reunion fees primarily cover food and beverage at the hotel for the welcoming reception, the business meeting and the Saturday banquet, breakfast boxes before Museum tour, picnic cost including catering, park fees, gaming truck and tent rentals and fees for things like tee shirts, mailers, photographer etc. A 2026 reunion website is coming soon for you to pay reunion fees and access current and future information about the reunion. If you are unable to pay right away, we recommend you start setting aside money to pay the reunion fees before December 31.

Hotel Information



The host hotel is **The Westin Alexandria Old Town, located at 400 Courthouse Square, Alexandria VA 22314. The telephone # is (703) 253-8600.**

The room rates are \$169/night for king beds or double bedrooms. To make a reservation for these rooms only, please click Book your group rate for Hurt-Waller Family Reunion. If you want to reserve more than 3 rooms, you must make another reservation for the additional rooms. Select the number of rooms ONLY, DO NOT select the number of guests. Leave it blank! Under Booking, indicate your bed preference (king or double) in the Additional Requests box. If you are interested in reserving a suite, please contact the hotel directly. There are a limited number of suites, so we recommend family members wanting them reserve as soon as possible. The standard suites are \$269 and executive suites are \$329/night.

For family members wanting to arrive at the hotel earlier and/or stay later, the hotel will honor these rates 3 days before and after the reunion. Check-in is 3P, check out is 12 noon. The last day to book a room is Tuesday, June 16, 2026.

The 319-room host hotel fronts a town square with benches for family gatherings or relaxation. Other amenities include:

- Trademark Restaurant (<u>www.trademarkalx.com</u>) serving breakfast, lunch and dinner.
- 30+ restaurants in walking distance
- 1.5-mile radius complimentary shuttle service
- 6 miles from downtown Washington DC, 5 miles from Reagan National Airport (DCA),
- 3 blocks from King Street Metro Station, Amtrak Station
- 20,000 SF ballroom, the largest in Alexandria
- a convenience store, fitness center, same day dry cleaning, turndown service and free WIFI.
- Valet parking is \$45/day, a self-park garage is less than 1 block from the hotel charging \$10/day.

Washington National Airport (DCA), just 5 miles away. The Washington Dulles Airport (IAD) is 31 miles from the hotel and the Baltimore Washington Thurgood Marshall Airport (BWI) is 44 miles away. Uber fares vary but keep in mind taking an Uber from BWI to the hotel can range between \$55-80/fare. Each airport has designated pick-up areas for Uber/Lyft. If flying into DCA, there is also rail transportation (Metro) at the airport with just 2 stops from the host hotel for under \$5. However, we would not recommend it for seniors, people with mobility issues or if you have a lot of luggage. If you are traveling to DC by Amtrak, you will arrive at Union Station in DC. From there you can catch an Uber (\$30-\$40 fare) or take Metro to host hotel, which is the less expensive, but it requires taking 2 separate trains and a transfer stop.

The hotel is in historic Old Town Alexandria with a rich African American history tied to the founding of the US. Please see the *Things to Do in Metro DC* section for more information.

Things to Do in Metro DC!

- Join the African American History tours in Old Town Alexandria. Before the founding of Alexandria in 1749, Africans and their descendants, enslaved and free, lived and worked along the Alexandria Waterfront making significant contributions to the local economy and culture.
 See https://visitalexandria.com/the-best-of/black-history-experiences/for more details.
- Visit the **Alexandria Waterfront**. Take the hotel complimentary shuttle to this historic waterfront which was named by Fodor's Travel as one of the Best River

- Walks in the US. Visit the Torpedo Factory Art Center and take water taxis to **Georgetown**, the new District Wharf and the National Harbor in Maryland. See https://visitalexandria.com/things-to-do/waterfront-activities/.
- Take the family to the Great Waves Waterpark. Take the kids, young and old, to the Waterpark in Alexandria, VA, a 10-min drive from the host hotel. The park is open from 11a-7p, and fees range from \$11 to \$19/ticket, depending on various conditions. See https://www.novaparks.com/waterparks/great-waves-waterpark.
- Visit the Frederick Douglass Home in Washington, DC



- Tour **area universities** like Howard University, George Washington University, Georgetown University, Catholic University of America, and the University of the District of Columbia.
- Visit the Memorials (MLK, Lincoln, Jefferson, George Washington, Vietnam Veterans) and/or Arlington Cemetery
- Visit **Smithsonian Museums** of Natural History or Air & Space.
- Take the family to the **National Zoo**
- Check out Arena Stage, International Spy Museum, Blues Alley and Ben's Chili Bowl



Check out https://travellemming.com/things-to-do-in-washington-dc/?srsltid=AfmBOoq2dG1rGOn4FavyyablOf1kCBIDpboIOfTw6IUvO-giTrmdcMGw for more information.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Will the hotel offer shuttle service to the airport?

No, the hotel does not offer shuttle service to the airport. However, the hotel is a short distance (5 miles) from the airport and Ubers should be in the \$20-25 range, depending on demand. The hotel does offer complimentary shuttle service in 1.5-mile radius from the hotel. Please review the hotel information section for transportation options to the reunion.

How soon can we reserve hotel rooms?

The hotel is accepting reservations now through June 16, 2026.

Is the hotel restaurant full-service?

Yes, the restaurant serves meals throughout the day, starting with breakfast at 6:30a until dinner ending at 11p.

Will we have enough time to tour the African American Museum of History and Culture in 4 hours?

The museum has numerous exhibits and therefore it will be challenging to see everything in 4 hours. However, we recommend you prioritize what you want to see prior to visiting the museum. You can also return to the museum the following Saturday or extend your stay in DC. Again, reunion rates are good 3 days before and after the reunion dates of July 16-19.

Will there be vegetarian options offered during the reunion?

There will be vegetables served at most meals however, if you have special diet restrictions, please let us know in advance and we will inquire how to accommodate the request.

The Reunion fees are expensive. Can my family pay in installments?

Unfortunately, we will be unable to process installment payments as our reunion committee is limited in resources. We are hoping family members can start setting aside monies before Dec 31 to take advantage of the early bird fee savings.

Will the reunion committee send information electronically only? What about relatives without access to WIFI or unable to use it?

The reunion committee plans to send hard copy mailers to family members where we have contact information very soon. However, given the resources of the committee, we will be unable to send ongoing mailers to all family members as time moves along. We will rely on word-of-mouth communications in some cases.

What happens if I send my registration fee, plans change, and I can no longer attend. Will my fees be returned?

We will return 100% of your fee if you notify us before April 1, 2026. From April 2 to June 16, 2026, we will refund 50% of the fee. After June 17 we will be unable to refund your reunion fee.

Will the reunion fees be based on the age of an attendee at the time of payment or the date of the reunion?

There is an incentive to pay fees this year. If a payment is made before Dec 31, the fee will be based on the attendee's age this year. Starting January 1, fees will be based on the age at the time of reunion.

If you have any questions or clarifications, please forward them to dchurtwallerfamilyreunion@gmail.com. We will update and/or add more FAQs as they roll in so please be on the lookout in the upcoming reunion website! We look forward to seeing you at the 2026 Hurt Waller Reunion next year.

Sincerely,

The 2026 DMV Hurt Waller Reunion Co-Chairs Carletta Hurt and Greg Jeffries