



## Sad News

### Albert Walker – Nov. 30, 2020



Albert's kindness and friendly demeanor, will be cherished by all those who came to know him. Recently he struggled with dementia but it didn't affect his personality, he was still a delight to be with.

Albert passed away peacefully of natural causes at St. Boniface Hospital on November 30 2020 at the age of 89 years. He had a good, full life.

He was predeceased by his parents Joe and Hannah Walker; sisters Ruth Carter and Doris Slessor; brothers Joe Walker, Reg Walker and Norman walker.

Al was born in Winnipeg September 30 1931. He grew up in the Fort Rouge area, in a close family of nine, as one of several skaters in the family and his coach Rupert Whitehead he became professional figure skater. He holds two Canadian championships and was a skating instructor in Canada and the USA. He also toured with the **Ice Capades** (1956-58) for two years. Albert returned to Winnipeg and worked for Versatile Farm Equipment as an inspector until he retired. Then he kept busy with his various projects and ventures, often with help from his friend of more than eighty years Bob McVikar, breakfast and coffee was the solution to many endeavours. [Click here for more information.](#)

Sam Dennis – Jan. 15, 2021 – At the present time there is no information on Sam's passing. Condolences from the Ice Capades family to Sam's family.

## Our Alumni in the News

**Sarah Kawahara choreographs the latest skating series “Spinning Out” currently airing on Netflix.**



Many films and television shows use choreographed routines to express a character’s emotions or push them forward to a new place in their arc, but more often than not these are dance routines on solid ground. Netflix’s “[Spinning Out](#)” puts its characters, and audience by extension, on ice.

In “Spinning Out,” Kat Baker (Kaya Scodelario) is a gifted skater who had a bad fall that halted her career and created major trepidations in trying what used to be routine moves for her. But when an opportunity arises for her to shift her track slightly and become a pair skater, she does go for it, learning to push past her trauma as she learns a new style of skating.

“Part of the metaphor of the show is, when you fall, you get back up,” executive producer [Tory Tunnell](#) tells *Variety*. “Kat is one-of-a-kind. She’s elegant, but she’s not even trying to be elegant. She’s entirely watchable, and it comes to her so naturally. Her peers are really hard-working athletes — and not to say she isn’t — but she has ‘it’; she has that thing that everyone wants, and she didn’t conjure it, but it comes naturally.”

The production team did put out a call “far and wide in the U.S. and Canada,” Tunnell says, “for a high-level skater who could play Kat.” But they didn’t want to “compromise on the acting” for a role that also explores living with bipolar disorder and ultimately went with a woman who was an actor first. Emma Roberts was first in the role, replaced by Scodelario before principal photography began. It then became up to a skilled choreographer to teach Scodelario, and her fellow cast members including Willow Shields how to skate well enough that they could move comfortably and confidentially for scenes that range from conversations while warming up on the ice to routine practices to full performances. (Cast members Amanda Zhou, Kaitlyn Leeb and Evan Roderick came into the show with more extensive experience, although Roderick had hockey skating experience and did need to learn a new style for this show.)

The show brought on [Sarah Kawahara](#), a former figure skater and Emmy winning choreographer who has worked on the most important modern representations of skating in film and television, from “Blades of Glory” and “I, Tonya” to the XIX Winter Olympics.

[Click here to read the complete article.](#)

# Public Service Announcement

## Wear a Mask



## The Iconic Ice Capades Dolls





1. Wish You Were Here, 1955,
2. Faust, 1959
3. Those Golden Girls, 1976,
4. Reflections, 1974
5. Island Magic, 1977,
6. Bagdad, 1967
7. Oriental Fantasy, 1978,
8. Circus of Yesteryear, 1971
9. Legend of Frozen Time, 1971,
10. The Story of Tsing Tsu, 1976
11. The Gershwin Years, 1980,
12. Celestial Voyage, 1979
13. Flora Fantasy, 1970,
14. Sentimental Journey, 1973
15. Tricks and Trunks, 1977

## Videos of the Month



Since we are staying safe and staying home, thought you'd like to take a trip down memory lane courtesy of our beloved Bob Turk. Here he is in his creative way when he conceived & staged *C'est Magique* - 1994 at the Lido de Paris in 1994. We miss you Bob.

The making of *C'est Magique* 1994– Lido de Paris – Part 1

<https://youtu.be/5et1S46i6p8>

The making of *C'est Magique* – Lido de Paris part 2

<https://youtu.be/XFezighaS3Y>

Lido – 1994 Finale – *C'est Magique*!

<https://youtu.be/3u9XrHa5CX4>

## RELIVING FOND MEMORIES



Doug Martin had published two books called 'Frozen Community' where he wanted to have skaters tell funny stories about their time on the road. Stories were posted before but worth sharing again. Read on.

### **Doug's views on moving a show**

I'd like to give you an idea of what it was like to move a show as large as Ice Capades from city to city. The show would usually conclude with a Sunday matinee followed by the final show on Sunday evening. On Saturday, the cast would have their clothing trunks moved out of the hotel to the loading area of the train station to be placed on board for the journey to the next destination. You could count on a minimum of 85-90 trunks each move. No small job. The cast would then take their suitcases and personal things onto the train with them, which would usually board within a few hours of the final performance on Sunday.

Trust me when I say it was a huge job for the stagehands to get the cargo cars loaded. Everything had to go like clockwork in order for us to get from one place to another on time, and with all the sets, props, and costumes in tow. Sometimes it was a close call, but I can't

remember ever having a show cancelled due to an error or malfunction of any kind on our part. Our stagehands had a great record.

### **Train trips**

Every once in awhile the train we were traveling on would be required to sit on a side rail while another train passed on the main track. We always had to give way to other trains, coming or going in any direction. I never could figure out why, but it really doesn't matter at this point. Let me tell you, though, that when we had such a delay, there were always a group of people, myself included, who would look high and low for anyone who might have anything to eat, and to find it before they could eat or hide it. You'd think people with common sense would wise up to the food needs on delayed trips. But I can tell you there was no end to the promises made to the ones who had food to share, by those of us hoping to share it. A person could get hungry on a train at 2:00 or 3:00 in the morning.

### **Doug's view of ice shows**

One of the elements that I believe brought people back to see the shows through the years, was the beautiful productions brought to the ice with class, and performing skaters who really took pride in doing a great job, who performed with the goal of thrilling the audience. The multiplied thousands of visitors who came to see our shows were enthralled with the incredible beauty of the productions. The beautifully-designed costumes, and the wonderful background sets, all of which were as much a part of the show as the skaters themselves.

We always had spectacular opening numbers, and incorporated children's numbers into the programs as well, such as the different classic Disney stories. Everyone loved Snow White, Peter Pan, Mickey Mouse and a number of other productions that the children enjoyed. The adults always seemed to love the scenes from different well-known Broadway shows and operas from around the world. My favorite was Madame Butterfly. The costumes, music, scenery and effects were as good as anything I've ever seen to this day, and I've seen numerous productions of just about every kind of show you can think of. I can still see the cherry blossoms growing on the ice, as they moved around to the music. They came to full bloom as the music swelled and the soloist reached the crescendo of the number. The people went nuts over that one. What another great memory.

## **New Reunion Information**

**New Dates – June 8, 9, 10, 2021**



**RESERVE YOUR TABLE FOR THE BANQUET and a chance to win a  
SUITE UPGRADE FOR THE EVENT**

**Are your friends registered yet?**

**Simply designate a Table Host, and that person will then let me  
know the other 7 “registered” people (total of 8 for your table).**

**These 8 people will then be *eligible to win a 1 Bedroom Suite Upgrade  
at the OMNI Resort and Spa for your Reunion stay.***

*Also, For those not participating in this promotion, know that there will be a  
"limited number" of table sign-ups available in Registration Area at Check-In!*

**Click here to register:** <https://www.eventinterface.com/en/ice-capades-2020-reunion/>

**The OMNI LAS PALMAS RESORT & SPA is now taking reservations, and can be made  
by [clicking here](#) or by clicking the link on our Reunion Registration Web page, or from the link  
on our Facebook Reunion event page, or by **phoning (888) 444-6664. REMEMBER: You must  
use Our Code to get the Discounted Rate: 061420CAPADES .****

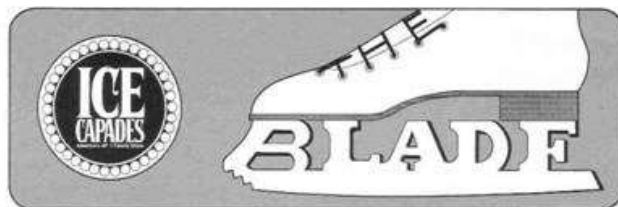
Questions: -- Stephanie Perom, Event Producer, (310) 962-5908 -Cell, [IceCapadesReunion@outlook.com](mailto:IceCapadesReunion@outlook.com)

**[Click here for all 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion Registration & Information](#)**

**[Click here to make revised Omni hotel reservations](#)**

Discounted Rate: 061420Capades

**[Click here to see who's coming](#)**



The website, [www.icecapadestheblade.com](http://www.icecapadestheblade.com) has been revamped and more information has been added. It's still a work in progress. If you have something to add, please send them.

Look here for **2021 Ice Capades Reunion** information, including the list of **who's coming**

**Cast, Precision & Production Pictures** – Relive some memories.

**Past reunion Pictures** – Check them out for some you may have missed.

**Rosters** – Looking for someone or remembering who you skated with in the show?

**Video links** – have been collecting skating 'You Tube' links from the early years.

**Program Covers** – we had the most beautiful covers

**Past Issues of The Blade** – just in case you missed an issue

**Past Reunion Pictures** – relive the times you attended the reunions

**In Memorium** – remembering those who have left us too soon

Check it out!

## Upcoming Events



<http://www.icetheatre.org/>

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