

Katy's Basketball Superstar

Meet WNBA player
DeMya Walker

Written by Kelly Isenberger

DeMya Walker
and her daughter
Zachara, who
just started
kindergarten,
love life in Katy



Walker strives to be a role model for girls and started Ballin' with Style to help encourage them to achieve their dreams

Photo by Stewart Small



During a Washington Mystics game, Walker faces off against Candace Parker of the Los Angeles Sparks

Photo by Stewart Small



Photo by Mystro Photography

Don't let the basketball jersey, on-court glamour, and jet-setting lifestyle fool you: Washington Mystics forward DeMya Walker is proud to call Katy home. In between her busy schedule of training, games, and public appearances, she makes time to spend with her daughter Zachara enjoying the Katy lifestyle.

Falling in Love with Katy

Born and raised in Jersey City, NJ, Walker fell in love with the Katy area when she joined the Houston Comets WNBA team. She decided right then that some day she would live here. Nine years ago, while playing basketball in Russia, her mother helped her purchase her dream home in Falcon Ranch.

Competing All over the World

Although Walker lives in Katy, she spends much of her time in other parts of the world playing basketball. The WNBA season runs from April to September, and then Walker plays in the European Basketball League from October to March.

Playing for a variety of leagues has meant that Walker's family has traveled all over the world with her. Zachara, who just started kindergarten, travels with her and can often be seen hanging out with Walker's teammates or even her coach. Zachara has loved seeing the world with her mom, and Walker believes that it has taught Zachara a lot about people.

Game Day Prep

During the basketball season, Walker's days are filled with practices, film viewing, personal trainer appointments, community appearances, and regular mom stuff, like grocery shopping and cooking dinner.

Before each game, Walker eats a healthy meal, makes sure her hair, nails, and makeup are done, and takes time to attend chapel, which helps her

make positive choices on the court. "I enjoy being a role model," she shares, admitting she still gets butterflies before each game.

Striving to Be a Role Model

Her passion for being a role model to girls extends into the foundation she is building called Ballin' with Style. "I want girls to be comfortable with who they are," Walker shares. "I want girls to understand that they can be both athletic and girly."

Her passion for sports began early, growing up with five brothers and a single mom. As a freshman, she decided to try out for basketball after having grown six inches during the year. By the end of the season, her coach told her that if she worked hard, she could go to any school she wanted to for free. It was then that basketball became a tool for her. She worked hard, got good grades, and went to play for the University of Virginia, the school she had always dreamed of attending.

Walker has enjoyed pouring herself into the sport, but says there is more to life than just basketball. "It's always been a means to an end for me," she shares. When she retires from basketball, she plans on being an attorney. Her first passion, though, is her family, and she strives to set the same high standards for Zachara that her own mother set for her.

Words of Wisdom

Throughout her life, Walker's greatest role model has been her mom, who taught her that she always has a choice in life. Walker finds much inspiration in that and in her favorite quote, "A dream is a goal with a deadline." "Never stop trying," she encourages others. "You can do anything if you make the right choices." **KM**

KELLY ISENBERGER is a Katy mom of two and greatly enjoyed getting to know DeMya Walker.

Get
to Know
DeMya

- Graduated from the University of Virginia with a degree in government
- Wants to someday be an attorney in mergers and acquisitions
- Coaches the IFD Belles, an Amateur Athletic Union team

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