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Walk in Honor of Famed Chicago Radio Personality Wally Phillips

Every 70 seconds someone develops Alzheimer's disease.

CHICAGO, IL---The Alzheimer's Association – Greater Illinois Chapter invites all fans of the late Wally Phillips to walk in his honor at the 20th annual Chicago Memory Walk.

The 2009 walk will take place on Sunday, September 13 at Montrose and the Lakefront, 4400 North Simmonds Drive, Chicago. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. and the walk steps off at 10:00 a.m.

"Wally Phillips was arguably one of the most famous Chicago radio personalities of our time", said Mollie Shapiro, manager of special events for the Chapter. "We are thrilled to have *Wally's Walkers* join us for the 2009 Chicago Memory Walk. The team is open to all of Wally's family, friends and many fans who want to honor him. *Wally's Walkers* will serve as the 2009 Grand Marshalls for the Memory Walk and there will be a tent where anyone who loved Wally can gather and share their favorite stories."

Considered a pioneer in talk radio for his blend of humor and information, Phillips called WGN radio home for more than 4 decades. He was inducted into the Radio Broadcast Hall of Fame in 1993. Wally was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease in 2003 and passed away in March of 2008...his family has vowed to fight against the disease in Wally's name and are active in the Alzheimer's Association.

"Currently there are more than a half million Illinois citizens who are affected by this devastating disease," said Erna Colborn, president and CEO for the Chapter. "As the baby boomer population enters the age of greatest risk for development of Alzheimer's this number will skyrocket. Memory Walk is vital to ensuring the future success of funding on a national level and Chapter outreach programs that include a 24/7 helpline, education programs and conferences for family and professional caregivers, support groups, MedicAlert+Safe Return, care navigation services, early stage/early onset programs and advocacy efforts in Illinois."

Memory Walk is the nation's largest event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer care, support and research. Since 1989, Memory Walk has raised more than \$260 million for the cause. If you would like to register for the 2009 Chicago Memory Walk or sign up for *Wally's Walkers* please visit <http://memorywalk.kintera.org/chicago2009> or call 847.933.2413.

About the Alzheimer's Association - The Alzheimer's Association, the world leader in Alzheimer research and support, is the largest voluntary health organization dedicated to finding prevention methods, treatments and cure for Alzheimer's. Since 1980, the donor supported, nonprofit Alzheimer's Association has provided reliable information and care consultation; created supportive services for families; increased funding for dementia research; and influenced public policy changes. **The Greater Illinois Chapter** serves 68 counties with offices in Bloomington, Carterville, Chicago, Joliet, Rockford and Springfield. For more information, call our Helpline at 800-272-3900 or visit www.alz.org/illinois.