

# The Passing Of Our Civil Rights Leader Jesse Jackson



My Final Walk

October 8, 1941 - February 17, 2026

## Honoring a Giant Who Walked Among Us.

We all carry our own stories of Rev. Jesse Jackson — moments of encouragement, lessons in courage, or simple acts of kindness that revealed the depth of his spirit. He touched the world with a humble heart and an unwavering love for humanity. My story is just one of millions that will be shared as we honor his final walk, each one a testament to the lives he lifted, the doors he opened, and the hope he carried into every room.

Rev. Jackson was more than a leader; he was a living bridge between generations of struggle and generations of possibility. A civil rights icon who stood fearlessly in the face of injustice, he taught us that dignity is non-negotiable, unity is powerful, and service is the highest form of leadership. His voice shaped movements.

His presence steadied communities. His vision expanded what America could be. Today, as we reflect on his journey, we don't just remember a public figure — we honor a man who made people feel seen, valued, and empowered. A man whose legacy will continue to rise through every story told, every vote cast, every young leader inspired to believe that they, too, can change the world.



## Jesse Jackson

### I Am Somebody

#### A Full-Circle Moment With Rev. Jesse Jackson

My wife, Darlene Veal, and I first encountered Rev. Jesse Jackson in 1969 in Chicago, when he was leading Operation Breadbasket, bringing hope and economic justice to communities like Cabrini-Green. Even then, his presence carried purpose and compassion.

Today, decades later, Darlene and I shared a quiet moment reflecting on that first meeting and the journey it sparked in us. Our story is just one of the millions shaped by his leadership, his humility, and his deep love for humanity.



# Carrying His Legacy Forward

As we honor Rev. Jackson's life, we honor the work he spent a lifetime teaching us to continue — to stand up, speak out, and show up for one another. The greatest tribute we can offer a man who fought for justice is to stay engaged, stay united, and make our voices heard.

Our community's power has always lived in our participation. Let us carry his legacy forward by voting with purpose, organizing with courage, and building the future he believed we deserved.

From the hearts of our communities to the Jackson family, we offer our deepest condolences. We honor and respect the sacrifices you made throughout Jesse's remarkable journey, and we hold you in love as his legacy continues to lift us all.



Welcome Home