

MaldenArtsMondays!



The week of August 10, Walter "Killer" Kowalski

This project is done in cooperation with Malden Reads, Malden Public Library and Malden Historical Society

Learn about Walter "Killer" Kowalski

Walter Killer Kowalski (October 13, 1926 - August 30, 2008)

Walter Killer Kowalski was a 6 foot 7 inch tall wrestler, weighing in at 285 pounds. He earned his nickname in 1954 after ripping the ear off of Yukon Eric during a match in Montreal. He became famous for various moves, including a grip called the "Killer Claw Hold." After 30 years of professional wrestling, he retired + founded [Killer Kowalski's School of Professional Wrestling](#) in Malden, Mass. His protégés included the wrestlers Triple H + Chyna, there is now a wrestling school that bears his name in Andover, MA. He was also an amateur photographer + a book was published in 2001, [Killer Pics: A Collection of Images from a Pro-Wrestling Legend](#), including portraits of some of the biggest wrestling stars, including Captain Lou Albano, Andre the Giant + Pedro Morales. "I had a hobby as a photographer, I would carry my camera with me around the world and start taking pictures. As I got to do more photography, I got pretty good."

Walter was a vegetarian, quoted as saying, "No one who eats the flesh of animals can progress spiritually beyond the average."

Walter wrote poetry as well, here is a [site](#) where his poetry is celebrated.

You can find Killer Kowalski on the [Wrestler's Wall at Kowloon Restaurant!](#) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Killer_Kowalski



Photograph by Jon Chase



Take a Walking Tour

Map of Tour Route

Tour Route:

- 1) 170 Pleasant St., home of Killer Kowalski's former Wrestling School
- 2) 157 Pleasant St., location of Walter's favorite restaurant Portofino's
- 3) 145 Pleasant St, MATV, where Walter made many appearances
- 4) 140 Plymouth St, Walter's Malden home with a great view
- 5) Malden Community Gardens, a vegetarian's happy place



Be your own Artist!

Check out our Activities page with lots of imaginative projects and fun for the whole family!

- Upload your masterpieces and discoveries to <http://www.maldenarts.org/malden-arts-mondays.html> or post on [Malden Arts Facebook page](#)
- Every photo or essay submitted by Sunday@ midnight will be put into a drawing for a weekly \$20 or \$5 gift certificate to a local restaurant, donut or ice cream shop and other surprises!