



Alexander Lee Hilliard

March 13, 1996 - April 28, 2025

Alexander Lee Hilliard, 29, passed away on April 28th, 2025, in Philadelphia, PA. He was born to Leon Van Hilliard and Felicita Figueroa, on March 13th, 1996, in Miami, FL. From the moment Alex entered the world he radiated a warmth and gentleness that was undeniable and enveloped all who knew him. Alex was a smart, kind, fun child who made his mother and father very proud. When Alex was two years old, he and his parents moved to Delaware to be closer to his paternal grandmother in her final years, with whom Alex shared a special bond. In time, Alex's parents would welcome two more children, his little sisters Erika and Sophia Hilliard, whom he adored. Later, after his parent's divorce, his mother blessed him with two more little sisters, Kristina and Sara Ortiz, whom he equally adored and affectionately referred to as, "the babies". Alex also was fortunate to have his maternal grandmother (Abuelita) play a major role in his life. Having always lived with him and his family as he grew up, and with Alex being the first grandchild, they had a precious relationship that he was proud of and cherished.

From an early age, it was obvious Alex was very bright, and academics came easily to him. From his first day of school, he was a dedicated student graduating with high honors from Appoquinimink High School, in Middletown, DE where he grew up. Alex would go on to study at the University of Delaware for a year. During that time, he had the chance to study abroad in Granada, Spain, which was the highlight of his time in college, aside from the friends he

made.

Alex loved city life and always knew he wanted to live in a big city, and he made it happen in 2018 when he decided to move to Philadelphia. Alex enjoyed all the fun activities the city had to offer. In his time there, he worked in the food service industry, where his magnetic and charming personality shined and where he, of course, made many friends. Throughout his life, Alex always had the natural ability to make friends wherever he went and had a knack for maintaining those friendships, through every stage of his life. In the years he lived in Philadelphia, the relationships Alex formed, along with being a proud member of the LGBTQ community, made his life in the city even more special. He had a way of making everyone feel included and seen. His outgoing and friendly nature and upbeat personality left an impression on everyone he met. The way he freely lived his life, inspired others to do the same. Known for his kind spirit, infectious laughter, and beautiful smile, Alex is often described as a light who could turn ordinary moments into extraordinary memories with the joy and happiness he would bring.

Before anything, Alex was a devoted son, grandson, nephew, cousin, and brother who always looked forward to spending time with his family. Despite his great social life in Philadelphia, Alex always made time to visit home often and for every occasion. Alex had a loving relationship with his mother, always being there for each other and being each other's biggest cheerleaders. His mother often describes him as the best son any mother could ever ask for, and how much of an honor and joy it has always been, to be Alex's mom. Alex was an incredibly fun, nurturing brother who showered his sisters with attention and affection, as well as passing down his hilarious sense of humor. Whether it was going to parks, going shopping, playing games, watching TV shows and movies, or just talking and laughing about random things, Alex cherished every moment with them. Alex always gave them someone to lean on, feel safe with, and be understood by. Alex will always be remembered as

the best big brother anybody could ask for.

Alex will be profoundly missed and always loved, by his family, friends, and all who had the privilege of knowing him.

The family would like to extend their gratitude to the ICU team at Penn Medicine for the exceptional care and tireless efforts you provided Alex. We are forever touched by your dedication, gentle hands, and caring hearts.

The family would also like to express their heartfelt appreciation to the vast community of family and friends for the outpouring of love and support. We are eternally grateful.

Family and friends are invited to attend a visitation from 5:30-7 PM on Sunday May 18, 2025, at the Strano & Feeley Family Funeral Home, 635 Churchmans Road, Newark, DE 19702. A service in celebration of Alex's life will follow at 7 PM. For directions or to send an online condolence, visit www.stranofeeley.com

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 18. 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Strano & Feeley Family Funeral Home
635 Churchmans Rd.
Newark, DE 19702
(302) 731-5459

Memorial Service

MAY 18. 7:00 PM (ET)

Strano & Feeley Family Funeral Home
635 Churchmans Rd.
Newark, DE 19702
(302) 731-5459

Tribute Wall

HF

“ Hoyong F. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Alexander Lee Hilliard.

Hoyong F. - May 18, 2025 at 06:56 PM

CS

“ Chloe S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Alexander Lee Hilliard.

Chloe S. - May 18, 2025 at 03:01 PM

SF

“ South Philly Fam planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Alexander Lee Hilliard.

South Philly Fam - May 17, 2025 at 02:34 PM

SF

“ South Philly Fam purchased the Treasured Lilies Spray for the family of Alexander Lee Hilliard.



South Philly Fam - May 17, 2025 at 02:34 PM

JF

“ Jake Fram purchased the Small Garden Dish for the family of Alexander Lee Hilliard.



Jake Fram - May 17, 2025 at 12:50 PM

JF

“ Jake Fram planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Alexander Lee Hilliard.

Jake Fram - May 17, 2025 at 12:50 PM

RB

“ Ryan, Desiree & The Ballard Boys planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Alexander Lee Hilliard.

Ryan, Desiree & The Ballard Boys - May 16, 2025 at 09:42 PM

RB

“ Ryan, Desiree & The Ballard Boys purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Alexander Lee Hilliard.



Ryan, Desiree & The Ballard Boys - May 16, 2025 at 09:42 PM

RH

“ 2 files added to the album Alex



Ron Hilliard - May 15, 2025 at 11:46 AM

HH

“ Hollie Hilliard purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Alexander Lee Hilliard.



Hollie Hilliard - May 14, 2025 at 02:46 PM

HR

“ Hollie, Leon and Randall purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Alexander Lee Hilliard.



Hollie, Leon and Randall - May 14, 2025 at 02:40 PM

HR

“ Hollie, Leon and Randall purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Alexander Lee Hilliard.



Hollie, Leon and Randall - May 14, 2025 at 02:37 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Alexander Lee Hilliard.

May 13, 2025 at 12:14 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Alexander Lee Hilliard.



May 13, 2025 at 12:14 PM



“ I only knew Alex briefly but will never forget him. Alex's kindness and gentleness had a way of reaching out and hugging your heart, I look at this as a treasured gift from Alex to all who had the immense privilege of crossing paths with him. This is the part of Alex that lives forever. To his mom, sister, family and friends, I am so very sorry for your loss. Helen(nurse from Penn)

Helen Luecke - May 09, 2025 at 12:49 PM

KF

“ We both have the same middle name, big foreheads, and loud laughs 😂 I miss you gurl 🤔🙏

Such an inspiration, such a light from God, such a caring soul, a model of self-confidence, self-love, and self-realization. You always brought a smile and positive energy everywhere you stepped foot.

I do not want to know wat my life would be like had we not been close friends. I'm honored that you considered me a close friend and I'll carry the cherished moments we had in my heart forever. You have AMAZING GORGEOUS and courageous sisters who you were always so proud of. And you have a mother with the strength and resilience of Ruth, more love than can fill the oceans, and a positive energy bursting with God's spirit. I love you all, I love Alex, I love that Alex brought us all together, I'm so sorry for your loss, but WOW did Heaven gain such a colorful soul!!! 🙏🙏🙏

See you soon, new neighbors ☐☐

Keenan Lee Faison - May 08, 2025 at 05:13 PM

SS

Alex was a precious child. He would come to visit his Grandma / Ema & some days we would go shopping. Ema (Ginger Lee) would always sing to him..... ' YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE ' and she meant it with all her HEART I'm sure my Sister is ready with open arms & her AWESOME smile.. to welcome Alex with open arms.

God be with all his family & friends as they find the Peace that passes all understanding in the loss of Alex....with guidance from our Heavenly Father.....

Sharon Surber (Gingers Sister)

Sharon Surber - May 13, 2025 at 08:16 AM

RH

So many great memories of Alex we got to go to two Phillie games, Disney World, ride ATV's and sing Karoke. When he was young he loved nothing more than to go to a hotel so he could jump in the pool with his sisters that he always looked after with love and kindness even when they squabbled. He was a good and gentle soul that will be missed greatly

Granpa Ron

Ron Hilliard - May 15, 2025 at 12:23 PM

KF

I was fortunate to meet Alex, and I was touched by his beautiful spirit. I'm not surprised to see so many others feel the same way. Blessings and peace to his family.

Kim Figueroa - May 18, 2025 at 06:50 PM