



Matthew James Belland

December 13, 1986 - December 19, 2023

A very special and beloved soul, Matthew James Belland, was born on Saturday, December 13, 1986, in Arlington, VA, and entered the Kingdom of Heaven on Monday, December 18, 2023.

Matt was loved fiercely by his parents, James, and Sherry Belland. He was both the brightest light -- and his untamed spirit, the biggest challenge in their lives. Their only son still lives in their hearts and is forever etched in their memories.

Matt's early years were spent in the Virginia suburbs, and he later attended the Prince Georges County Public Schools in Maryland. As a boy, he was active in athletics, playing both basketball and football with the Boys & Girls Club. He was always a sports enthusiast who enjoyed watching, discussing, and debating sports with his dad. He loved many genres of music, with his love of gospel music being influenced by his mom, and jazz music influenced by his dad. He fancied himself as a rap lyricist and shared his creative expressions with family and friends. Since he was a small boy, he spent countless hours as an avid video hobbyist. He was a certified professional barber.

He had charm, intelligence, and a great sense of humor. He also had a very big heart and loved his parents and family. Knowing that a stem cell transplant could be a lifesaving treatment, this love and caring was evidenced by Matt's recent stem cell donation to help combat his dad's leukemia. Upon notification of Matt's death, his cousin Yvette remarked to his parents, "Matt's assignment

was completed after his donation made sure his dad could make it to the next level."

On the day of his death, Matt spoke of his faith, and contemplated a future with goals to position himself to care for his parents in years to come. His favorite bible scripture was, "Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need and thank him for all he has done."

Philippians 4:6NLT

Matthew is survived by his parents, James, and Sherry Belland; aunts Linda Pendergrass (Michael), Gracie Coleman – known as his "Momtie" (Walter), Denise Coston (Michael), Angela King (Steve), Mabel Nieves Holloway, Jannice Hilliary; and an uncle, Jeffrey Hilliary. He had special relationships with his older cousins; Vanessa Zimmerman (William), Anita Douglas and Michelle DeVane Brown (Walter). An only child, Matthew considered cousins who were his contemporaries in the DMV and the Pittsburgh area as siblings. He enjoyed a lifetime of closeness with cousins Amber Pendergrass, Nathaniel Coston, Jasmine Pendergrass, Elijah Kasal, Tamara Green, Monique Green, Anthony Belland, and Rhandi Belland.

He was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, James Belland and Elizabeth Hilliary, step-grandmother Sallie Belland, and his maternal grandparents Morgan H. Holloway, and Ella M. Pendergrass. On the day of his death, Matthew talked about his sacred relationship with his maternal grandmother and said he still missed her presence in his life. Now they can rejoin their spirits and renew their deep connection in the afterlife. Matthew is also preceded in death by several uncles; Dwayne Holloway (Mabel), James Belland (Daisy) Elbert Belland (Sally), Claudy Belland (Ethel), Anthony Belland, Sr. (Jackie) and an aunt; Denise Hilliary. Matt shared close and special relationships with his late uncle Terence Pendergrass, and his late aunt, Marlene Belland Johnson (Wallace).

We lost Matt in the most unimaginable and heartbreaking circumstances that leaves a void in our lives that can never be filled. It is a harsh reality that family and friends must face together, as we grieve our loss along with feelings of anger and confusion. Yet, in the face of tragedy, and his sudden and untimely death, we will find strength in our memories of him and the love that he brought to our lives. We will deeply miss our precious Matt and always carry his memory in our hearts.

The family wishes to express their deep appreciation and sincerely thank you for your kind expressions of sympathy and support.

Cemetery Details

Mt. Comfort Cemetery

6600 So. Kings Highway
Alexandria, VA 22306

Previous Events

Viewing

JAN 13. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Harvest Assembly Baptist Church
8008 Fordson Rd.
Alexandria, VA 22306

Funeral

JAN 13. 11:00 AM (ET)

Harvest Assembly Baptist Church
8008 Fordson Rd.
Alexandria, VA 22306

Interment

JAN 13 (ET)

Mt. Comfort Cemetery
6600 So. Kings Highway
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