



Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr.

January 15, 1969 - March 30, 2019

On Saturday March 30, 2019 Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr., loving husband, son and father of four children, passed away at the age of 50. Alex was born on January 15, 1969 in the Bronx NY to Kermitt W. Bowen Jr. and Sarah Mae Cummings Bowen Hudson. Alex was the youngest of three siblings, Kermitt W. Bowen III and Tasha L. Bowen Newsome. Most of his childhood, he was raised by his mother. Sarah remarried to Albert N. Hudson who was called "Pop" to the family and who Alex considered his father. He became a lot closer to Pop in his adult years, up until Albert's passing on September 28, 2007. Alex grew up in Valley Stream NY and spent his entire education in the Elmont School District. Upon completing high school, he worked various jobs until he married the first time at the age of 20 and had three kids, Catrina Alexandra, Beverly Alexa and Alexander Raphael Jr. before the age of 25. Alex started working with the New York City Transit Authority in 1993. The first 9 years of his career he was a train conductor and the latter 16 years as a train operator until his retirement in 2018 with 23.5 years on the job. During his tenure, Alex also volunteered as a steward for the TWU Local 100 union. He always had a passion and knack for vehicles. In addition to operating passenger and work trains for the MTA, he was an avid motorcycle rider and eventually became a Rider Coach for MSF (Motorcycle Safety Foundation). Besides having a motorcycle license, he had a commercial driver license with almost every possible endorsement including Hazardous Materials, Tow Truck, Double / Triple Tracker Trailers. On the side, he would also

occasionally drive his friend's limousine, once even having Grace Jones as a passenger.

In the summer of 1999, he met Candice, his soul-mate, best friend and love of his life. They shared and experienced so much of life together as a couple having been together for almost 20 years. His beloved Aunt Julia Peretta Cummings Lewis, once said that they made a "great team" which meant a lot to him. Alex and Candice married on June 11, 2011 and were blessed with a son, Elijah Hudson Bowen on May 28, 2012.

Alex enjoyed and lived life to the fullest. His passions included spending time with this family, exploring the city, state and country in which we live in by taking many road trips by motorcycle, vehicles and recreational vehicle. One of his dreams was to travel cross country in an RV with his family. Summer of 2018 he had the opportunity to do just that on the East Coast from Maine, to the NY Finger Lakes all the way to Atlanta, GA. He loved the great outdoors and being in nature, which led him and Candice to purchase a home in Beacon NY along the Hudson River in 2009. Living in the suburbs, he took advantage of the outdoors — hiking, biking, kayaking, fishing, swimming, boating, camping etc. Some of his other hobbies included enjoying good food, listening to music, dancing, playing chess, watching sports, especially football and rooting for his favorite team the Baltimore Ravens.

Shortly after purchasing a home in Beacon, his son Alex Jr. and Catrina moved in with Candice and him. As an opportunity to bond, get familiar and involved with the community, he and Alex Jr. joined the Beacon Fire Department. After completing fire fighter training and serving as a volunteer fire fighter, he became secretary of the Beacon Fire Department.

He was always eager to learn more, do more and become more. He was a genuine man of character and demonstrated the Fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23). Although he grew up in the church and was saved earlier in life, he was not baptized until finding a home church at Grace Community Church in Orange County, NY. Shortly after he was baptized, he became ill

and eventually found out that he had a tumor in his cervical spine, a type of brain cancer astrocytoma. The family decided to move back to NYC in 2017 to be closer to family, doctors and the hospital. The last 3 years were a challenge for Alex and the family, but he put all his faith and trust in the Lord until the very end.

Alex is survived by his wife Candice, four children Katrina, Beverly, Alex Jr., and Elijah, his mother Sarah and siblings Kermitt and Tasha and a host of family and friends.

No one should face cancer alone. Gilda's Club NYC has been a tremendous support for the Bowen Family. As an appreciation, for those who would like to donate, please visit <https://gildasclubnyc.org/donate-now/>

Previous Events

Funeral Service

APR 6. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Grace Funeral Chapels
607 North Conduit Blvd.
Brooklyn, NY 11208
(718) 235-8088
info@gracefunerals.com
<https://www.gracefunerals.com>

Visitation

APR 6. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Grace Funeral Chapels
607 North Conduit Blvd.
Brooklyn, NY 11208
(718) 235-8088
info@gracefunerals.com
<https://www.gracefunerals.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr.*

November 11, 2022 at 12:38 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..*



April 06, 2019 at 10:03 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..*



April 06, 2019 at 09:16 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..*



April 06, 2019 at 07:53 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..*



April 06, 2019 at 07:39 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..*



April 05, 2019 at 08:18 PM



“ *86ST Popeyes purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..*



86ST Popeyes - April 05, 2019 at 06:48 PM



“ *5TH Ave Popeyes purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..*



5TH Ave Popeyes - April 05, 2019 at 06:45 PM

JF

“ *Jewel & Tim Finger purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..*



Jewel & Tim Finger - April 05, 2019 at 04:18 PM

LF

“ *Ling Family - Grandma, Al, Frank & Calvin's family purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..*



Ling Family - Grandma, Al, Frank & Calvin's family - April 05, 2019 at 03:39 PM

TC

“ *The Lee Family (Mr. Lee, Clara, Claire and Calvin) purchased the Divine Light for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..*



The Lee Family (Mr. Lee, Clara, Claire and Calvin) - April 05, 2019 at 03:11 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..*



April 05, 2019 at 02:39 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..*



April 05, 2019 at 01:36 PM



“ *Our families heart felt sympathy goes out to you all..*



Raymond Shisler - April 05, 2019 at 01:29 PM

RS

“ Alex, was smart, charming and humorous, he could light up a room with his larger than life personality. Alex loved life and adventure, he will be missed.



Ray & Yan Shisler

A short story from one of our early adventures together:

Alex had bought a new BMW motorcycle and was enthusiastic to say the least about going on a ride with his new motorcycle. I told him I had a Ducati parked in a campground in the Catskills NY, (I had an RV there) that I ride more in the country settings despite living in the city, and that I welcomed his company in joining me on a county ride. Alex had wide open eyes and a very big smile when he accepted this invitation. I told him it could be difficult finding the campground but that was just the challenge he liked when I wrote out the directions for him and departed, leaving him with a big smile. When the weekend came I went to the campground the night ahead of our expected rendezvous and I awoke to torrential downpouring rain. I could not believe how heavy the rain was all night and figured Alex would not be able to make it up due to the weather. Suddenly I could hear a throaty deep exhaust sound in the camp ground from behind the RV, as I looked out the window I could see a single headlight coming my direction and I ran outside under a large awning I waved to the cyclist and as he approached in still extremally heavy downpouring rain it was Alex!

Alex was laughing and said I told you I was coming Ray, I told you. I helped him get his bike up under the awning and Alex took off multi layers of riding gear excitedly telling me all about his motorcycle clothing and his new BMW motorcycle, wanting me to see and enjoy it with him; again all with the biggest smile you could imagine. Alex I said please come in I have the heat on and it's cold outside, there's a fresh pot of coffee on the stove. Come in, come in I explained. Alex followed me in to the RV but his voice changed a little, concerned he said, we are going to ride together right? I looked over at him in disbelief chuckling and smiling back I said of course

but lets get you warmed up and dried up a little and I will show you what I have planned, a trip to 5 or 6 covered bridges in the area. Thank God Alex said because he came to ride and he was not letting some rain stop him. Alex took a hot cup of coffee and looked around the RV excited and enjoying it's comforts and our relatively new friendship, he was happy and impressed. I showed him two maps highlighting our route, that I placed in zip-lock plastic bags with magnetic strips to hold them to the motorcycle tanks. Alex jumped up and grabbed hold of me hugging me with excitement, and slapping me on the back saying Ray, Ray this is going to be great! We went out side and I showed him my Ducati and we placed the maps with there magnets on the tanks on the bikes. As we fired up our bike engines and prepared for our tour together the rain slowed to a very light drizzle. We rode only back roads that were full of twists and turns, up hills and down hills with natures beauty all around us. As we pulled up to our first destination the sun came out in its full glory which was quite welcome as the temperature out side was in the low 50's. we spent a great day together riding to all of our destinations which included dirt and gravel roads and our friendship became much closer sharing the outdoors together. I remember telling Alex do you know what BMW stands for? and he said "Bavarian Motor Works!" I said no Alex it stands for the "Best Motorcycle in the World!" he laughed allowed; he always got quite a kick out of that...

Years later he told me that our motorcycle trip together was one of his favorite memories.

God Bless Alex!

Alex left us way to early in life but anyone who was fortunate enough, like me to become his friend is a better person for knowing him.

My Condolences to all his family and friends...

Raymond Shisler - April 05, 2019 at 12:47 PM

LZ

“ *Such a beautiful soul! May you Rest in Peace Alex. Thank You for your many great laughs and smiles. Lissette Zuniga from the office of Dr. Mandigo*



Lissette Zuniga - April 05, 2019 at 12:32 PM

DN

“ *Dr. Mandigo, Lissette & Nicole purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..*



Dr. Mandigo, Lissette & Nicole - April 05, 2019 at 12:15 PM



“ *Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..*



April 05, 2019 at 10:32 AM



“ *Beautiful Whisper was purchased for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..*



April 05, 2019 at 09:55 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..



April 05, 2019 at 09:31 AM



“ *Flushing Sonic Management Team* purchased the *Rainbow Of Remembrance Spray* for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..



Flushing Sonic Management Team - April 05, 2019 at 03:16 AM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray* was purchased for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..



April 04, 2019 at 10:43 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket* was purchased for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..



April 04, 2019 at 10:28 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..



April 04, 2019 at 05:25 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..



April 04, 2019 at 04:11 PM



“ *Mother Thelma E. Cotten, International Purity Lady* purchased the *Simply Happy Kalanchoe Plant* for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..



Mother Thelma E. Cotten, International Purity Lady - April 04, 2019 at 12:16 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..



April 04, 2019 at 11:57 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..*



April 04, 2019 at 10:03 AM



“ *Marion & Ray purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..*



Marion & Ray - April 04, 2019 at 09:14 AM



“ *The Fowler Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..*



The Fowler Family - April 04, 2019 at 08:51 AM



“ *John Lam and Family purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..*



John Lam and Family - April 04, 2019 at 08:37 AM

GA

“ Greater Blouse, Skirt & Undergarment Association purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..



Greater Blouse, Skirt & Undergarment Association - April 04, 2019 at 08:24 AM

AL

“ 0 file added to the tribute wall

alex.candice.boweng - April 04, 2019 at 07:32 AM

AL

“ No one should face cancer alone. Gilda's Club NYC has been a tremendous support for the Bowen Family. As an appreciation, for those who would like to donate, please visit <https://gildasclubnyc.org/donate-now/>

alex.candice.boweng - April 04, 2019 at 07:13 AM

AL

“ 0 file added to the tribute wall

alex.candice.boweng - April 04, 2019 at 06:56 AM

AL

“ 0 file added to the tribute wall

alex.candice.boweng - April 04, 2019 at 06:47 AM

UA

“ Uncle Kyi Kong, Clifford, Anita, Nick, Liezl & Ava purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..



Uncle Kyi Kong, Clifford, Anita, Nick, Liezl & Ava - April 04, 2019 at 02:16 AM

ZM

“ Zach & Shelly Ye, Arturo & Imelda Mapula purchased the Ringed by Love for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..



Zach & Shelly Ye, Arturo & Imelda Mapula - April 04, 2019 at 01:35 AM

TN

“ The families of Peter Ng, John Ng and Ping Ng purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..



The families of Peter Ng, John Ng and Ping Ng - April 03, 2019 at 08:40 PM

NC

“ New York Chinese Baptist Church purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..



New York Chinese Baptist Church - April 03, 2019 at 06:11 PM

PP

“ *Patients & Purpose purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..*



Patients & Purpose - April 03, 2019 at 12:16 PM

SF

“ *Sincerely, The Dell'Aquila Family purchased the Sunny Memories for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..*



Sincerely, The Dell'Aquila Family - April 03, 2019 at 09:32 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..*



April 03, 2019 at 08:12 AM

BS

“ *Big Sean lit a candle in memory of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr.*



Big Sean - April 03, 2019 at 08:05 AM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..*



April 03, 2019 at 07:54 AM



“ *0 file added to the tribute wall*

alex.candice.boweng - April 02, 2019 at 04:57 PM



The Greatest friend you could ever ask for.. You will never be forgotten!..

Big Sean - April 03, 2019 at 07:58 AM



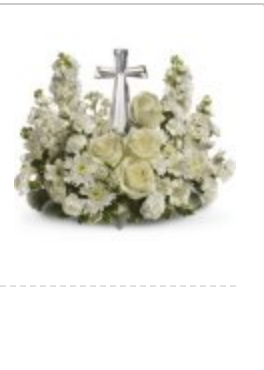
“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..*



April 02, 2019 at 12:43 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..*



April 02, 2019 at 11:18 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..



April 02, 2019 at 11:17 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..



April 02, 2019 at 10:59 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..



April 02, 2019 at 09:58 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..



April 01, 2019 at 08:43 PM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Alexander Raphael Bowen Sr..* ”



April 01, 2019 at 07:53 PM