



Spencer King

August 6, 2003 - January 4, 2024

“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.” John 14:27

Spencer Alexander King was born August 6, 2003, in Memphis Tennessee to his parents Johnny and Marcia King. He gave his life to Christ at the young age of 10 years old at Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of Pastor Donald L Johnson.

Spencer was a proud alumnus of Bartlett High School where he graduated in 2021. Upon graduation, Spencer attended The University of Tennessee in Martin Tennessee majoring in computer science. He aspired to make a meaningful impact in the ever-evolving world of technology.

Spencer was a beloved son, grandson, nephew, cousin, and friend. Whenever Spencer entered a room, the atmosphere illuminated with an undeniable energy and positivity. Although Spencer was soft-spoken by nature, God utilized his light to be shown through his smile and warm demeanor.

Spencer loved sports, especially the Memphis Grizzlies. He enjoyed spending his free time bowling with friends, gaming, and listening to music. Throughout his short life, Spencer touched many people, both young and old. Though he may not be with us in the natural, we know that God has blessed us with an angel to watch over us.

Spencer leaves to cherish his memories; his father, Johnny Alexander King, his mother, Marcia Marie King, his maternal grandmother, Marilyn Spencer, his paternal grandmother, Betty Williams, and a host of aunts, uncles, cousins, friends, and classmates.

Cemetery Details

Memorial Park Cemetery

5668 Poplar Ave
Memphis, TN 38119

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN **13**. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (cst)

Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church
7289 Stage Rd.
Memphis , TN 38133

Service

JAN **14**. 1:00 PM (cst)

Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church
7289 Stage Rd.
Memphis , TN 38133

Tribute Wall

“ Spencer had taken a trip to Toronto to celebrate the New Year before returning to college from his winter break. Shortly after returning, he visited his orthodontist to have stitches removed and was given a clean bill of health. The following day, he went to his part-time job, picked up Chick-fil-A for dinner, and came home to change clothes. Later that evening, he headed out to enjoy one of his favorite pastimes: bowling with friends. He returned home around 10 p.m., looking unusually tired. When I asked what was wrong, he simply said he felt “off” and had gotten sleepy on the drive home. Concerned, I took his temperature, but it wasn’t elevated. I gave him a couple of Tylenol, and he went to bed.

At around 3 a.m. on January 4th, 2024, I was awakened by a text from Spencer. He still felt unwell—complaining of slight nausea, pain in his jaw, and difficulty sleeping. He mentioned that people “wouldn’t stop annoying him,” which felt odd. His father and I began to worry. Our first thought was that he might have taken something, possibly drugs, that were causing these unusual symptoms. His father went to work, and I decided to stay home and keep an eye on him.

We never once considered meningitis. Spencer had been vaccinated with the required meningitis shots, so it didn’t cross our minds. My initial thought was that it could be COVID or the flu, especially since he had just returned from Canada. I gave him something to help with his nausea, and he managed to eat a few saltine crackers and sip some ginger ale. But he remained lethargic, and his heart rate seemed higher than usual.

I put him in a shower and then brought him to my bed to monitor him closely. That’s when I took his temperature again—104.7°F. Panic set in. We rushed him to the nearest emergency room, and though he was weak, Spencer managed to walk in and explain his symptoms to the staff.

What followed was a nightmare. His health declined rapidly. Every

passing hour brought new complications and Spencer gave his last breath just a few hours later. Our one and only son was gone. In the span of a day, our world had been flipped upside down.

Months later, as we tried to make sense of what happened, I was able to access Spencer's medical records. That's when I discovered he had only received the required meningitis vaccine, not the recommended serogroup B vaccine. While I can't say for certain that this would have changed the outcome, knowing that there was an additional vaccine that could have offered protection haunts me.

Now, my mission is to spread awareness. There are vaccines out there—some required, some recommended—that could save a life. I encourage everyone to get fully vaccinated, not just what's required but what's recommended too. You never know when it might make the difference.

Spencer, even in his final moments, showed incredible strength. I'll never forget him looking at me from his hospital bed, body wracked with pain, and saying, "Don't cry." Even in his darkest hour, he held onto his faith. I cry every day for him, but I also carry his faith with me. Through sharing his story, I hope to honor his life and encourage others to protect themselves and their loved ones. Trust in God and trust in the power of prevention—it may save your life or the life of someone you love.

Marcia King - October 03, 2024 at 10:00 AM

NI

“ *My dearest classmate and friend,*

I'll miss the good laughs we shared. My condolences to the King family and our entire Bartlett High family

Nicole - February 24, 2024 at 10:10 PM

SB

“ Spencer was a good friend of mine our freshman year of college. I would hangout with him and his roommate Caimen often. I am so sorry for your loss. He had the sweetest soul.

Sierrah Blankenship - January 14, 2024 at 05:52 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Spencer King.



January 13, 2024 at 05:09 PM

ML

“ Michelle L. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Spencer King.

Michelle L. - January 13, 2024 at 04:44 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Spencer King.



January 13, 2024 at 04:19 PM

TK

“ The Luster Family (Floyd and Kourtnei) planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Spencer King.

The Luster Family (Floyd and Kourtnei) - January 13, 2024 at 12:43 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Spencer King.*



January 13, 2024 at 12:43 PM



“ *Andersons lit a candle in memory of Spencer King*



Andersons - January 12, 2024 at 10:31 PM



“ *So sorry for your loss. May you find peace and comfort in knowing your family and friends are here for you. The Anderson family, Michigan*

Andersons - January 12, 2024 at 10:30 PM



“ *Sybil Walls purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Spencer King.*



Sybil Walls - January 12, 2024 at 08:44 AM

SW

“ Sybil Walls planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Spencer King.

Sybil Walls - January 12, 2024 at 08:44 AM

JB

“ Spencer 😔 the quiet Cousin I'll never forget the little time we had together before you leaving us . I was the lucky cousin I came cousin and that's so true you were such a great cousin to be around you smiled the whole time in Dallas. I'll always remember you so so sorry. I love you Spencer 💔



Jasmine Bullock - January 10, 2024 at 07:54 PM

LO

“ May your smile forever be remembered. I just think of you and Jackson shopping and having such a good time together Thanksgiving 2023. I am sure you have left an everlasting impression on many and long live your memories.

Love Londa

Londa - January 10, 2024 at 04:18 PM

CK

“ Spencer, I will always cherish the great times we have had together. Especially, Thanksgiving of 2023 in Dallas Texas. That bright smile you had will forever warm my heart. Goodbye is not forever. Goodbye is not the end. it simply means, I'll miss you until we meet again. Rest in Peace Nephew.

Love,

Aunt, Cynthia King

Cynthia King - January 10, 2024 at 10:44 AM

YC

My heart hurts so much but I know God doesn't make mistakes. God needed you in his kingdom so some others will get others to the kingdom. LOVE I will see you again 🥺❤️🙏🌟

Yvonne H. Coulter - January 14, 2024 at 12:25 PM