



Samuel Kwang-Yeung Diamond

November 8, 2002 - April 6, 2026

Samuel Kwang-Yeung Diamond

Samuel Diamond passed away on April 6, 2026, in Blacksburg, Virginia. He was 23 years old and held the promise of a brilliant future. He was a senior at Virginia Tech, majoring in Computer Science at the College of Engineering with a minor in Mathematics. Sam was a proud Hokie.

Sam was born in Los Angeles, California, at the UCLA Mattel Children's Hospital on November 8, 2002. His maternal grandfather Frank Hom gave him the name "Kwang-Yeung" which means a broad and brilliant sun, an appropriate description for his beautiful mind. He was a beloved and happy child who could spend endless days on the beach, playing with toy trucks, and building with Legos. Although he was often shy and quiet, he was known for his sweet nature, witty comebacks, critical thinking, astute comments on culture and politics, dry humor, mathematical abilities, and natural gift as a teacher. A student at The Hotchkiss School and a graduate of Sidwell Friends, he spent time on lacrosse and cross-country teams and enjoyed being a member of the Robotics Club. He found his home at Virginia Tech, and relished the challenges of rigorous and competitive academics, excelling as a humble and gifted scholar. He loved his Tech college professors and courses—programming, math, electives, humanities, art. He read avidly, frequently rereading books by Bradbury, Singer, Pynchon, Asimov, and Dahl. Since his teenage years, Sam was an extraordinarily gifted writer who could deliver a

short story, critical essay, or analysis of history effortlessly.

Sam is survived by his parents, David Diamond and Hellen Hom-Diamond, and his sister, Katie, with whom he shared a special bond. He is also survived by his grandfather Frank Hom; aunts and uncles Elaine and Dewey Fanning, John and Misa Hom, Lisa Smith and Brendan Kelly, Andrew Diamond and Caroline Rolland-Diamond; and beloved extended family and cousins in Baltimore, Boston, Paris, Seattle, Connecticut, and California. He especially loved his cousins Isaac and Bess Wright-Levine. The family is deeply grateful to the kindness of the Blacksburg community, Elizabeth Kaires, and Virginia Tech which will graciously award him a Bachelor's degree, magna cum laude, posthumously in May 2026.

Sam will be missed and cherished forever. A memorial service will be held on June 6 at Grace and St. Peter's Church at 11 a.m. in Baltimore, Maryland with a luncheon to follow (<https://evite.me/2NAw2R3TkF>). Please email the family at HellenHom@gmail.com for information or to send memories and photos. Donations can be made to the Virginia Tech College of Engineering annual fund (please scroll and select "In Honor/In Memory of" and add "Samuel Diamond." Notification address is 278 Steele Road, West Hartford CT 06117)."

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUN 6. 11:00 AM (ET)

Grace & St. Peter's Church
707 Park Ave
Baltimore, MD 21201

Tribute Wall

EM

“ Dear Diamond Family, Although I did not know Sam personally, I was deeply saddened to hear the news. I lost someone I loved to a similar situation and have been grieving his loss for the past four years. I understand how difficult this time is, and I encourage you to stay strong and cherish the beautiful memories you shared.



Eman - May 04 at 01:24 PM

KG

“ I am so very sorry for your loss of this fine young man. I cannot imagine your grief, and send love for your healing.

Karolyn Givens - April 23 at 10:03 AM

OF

“ Dear Diamond Family:
We are so incredibly sorry to hear about Samuel's passing. Sending you and your family so much strength. May the beautiful moments you shared bring a small measure of comfort during this time. Sam's light will forever shine in hearts of all of those who knew him.

Olivia Woods + Family - April 19 at 07:24 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Samuel Kwang-Yeung Diamond.

April 17 at 10:57 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Samuel Kwang-Yeung Diamond.*



April 13 at 08:46 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Samuel Kwang-Yeung Diamond.

April 13 at 08:46 PM



“ *As I only met Sam one time, my experience of him is through the lens of Hellen and David, his amazing and devoted parents, who have dedicated themselves to their kids. There are few parents who have given as much of their hearts and spirits to their children. I know that Sam must have felt their love and devotion. You have my sincere condolences and ongoing prayers.*

Christine Sanni - April 13 at 06:27 PM



“ *I only knew Katie through mutual friends, but my heart broke when I heard the news about Sam. My family lost my brother to suicide and I wanted to reach out to let you know that you are not alone, and your family is in my family's thoughts and prayers. If you ever need someone to talk to feel free to reach out; all I wanted was to talk to someone who understood even half the pain I was going through at the time.*

Caroline Carr-Smith

Caroline - April 13 at 04:24 PM

HH

Dear Caroline, I am grateful for your warm words and outreach. My email is hellenhom@gmail.com. I am sorry for your loss as well and thank you for your kindness. — Hellen

Hellen Hom-Diamond - April 14 at 10:50 AM

HH

“*Dear Friends and Family: We are heartbroken. Samuel was a loving and sweet soul who will be missed every day. We thank the good people of Virginia Tech and Blacksburg who demonstrated kindness and compassion. A memorial is forthcoming in late May/early June and we will post updates here and via email; please contact us at “Hellenhom@gmail.com” if you would like to receive future information or have any stories or photos to share.*

*Please say a prayer for Samuel and remember him with love.
- The Diamond Family*

Hellen Hom-Diamond - April 13 at 11:36 AM