



## Collin Bentley Russell

October 10, 1995 - December 26, 2018

Collin Bentley Russell was born on October 10, 1995, in Murray, Utah to Jonathan and Laurie Russell. His oldest sister Emma petitioned he should be named Alan - so it would be Emma, Jenna, Dallin, Alan...but the name Collin fit him perfectly. He was a bright light in our family, we all loved our baby brother Collin. He loved being with everyone and wanted everyone to be happy. He was a peacemaker and a great listener.

In his early years he loved reading, drawing, and video games, and when he was a teenager he developed a deep passion for music. He loved attending concerts with his friends and was a talented singer and guitar player. Traveling was so exciting for him, he always wanted to get out and see the world. He had a very special relationship with his mom, who he spent many late nights with sharing his ideas, joys, and fears. They did everything together, including working at The Gap. Everyone he met immediately loved him and felt his special spirit. He was a natural when it came to modeling and his time doing it professionally brought him great joy. He loved sharing that passion with his sister Jenna. His brother Dallin was always a listening ear for him and supported him immensely. But above all, his father loved him fiercely through thick and thin.

We lost him on December 26, 2018, to a tragic accidental overdose. His last years were difficult for him as he battled with depression and anxiety. His nephew Elliott and niece Ivy were a ray of hope amongst the darkness. He adored them and always made time to get down and play with them. Our last Christmas with him was a sweet time that we will always remember. We feel at peace that Collin is finally free of the many burdens he felt here on earth, and are so grateful to know we will see him again.

Collin is survived by his parents, Jonathan and Laurie Russell, his siblings Emma (Isaac) Westwood, Jenna Russell, Dallin Russell, nephew and niece Elliott and Ivy Westwood, and grandparents Larry and Joy Beck, as well as many cousins, aunts, uncles, and friends. He is preceded in death by his Grandma and Grandpa Marilyn and John Russell and cousin Brian Thaut.

Funeral services will be held on January 2, 2019, at 11 am at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints meetinghouse at 5555 South 700 West Murray, Utah 84123. A gathering of family and friends will be held from 9:30-10:30 am prior to the funeral at the same location. Interment will follow at Murray Cemetery. Please join us to celebrate

Collin's life.

The family would love for you to share memories and photos of Collin. Please bring them with you or send them to [emmajoy7@gmail.com](mailto:emmajoy7@gmail.com).

# Comments

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“ I went to school with Collin, He was always someone who was really nice to me. I was very shy in school, so I didn't get to know him as well but he was always someone who said hi to me and made me feel better by being so nice. In elementary I remember playing the game Four Square with him and his friends. I remember having a lot of fun and that really meant a lot that they let me play with them. Collin was someone at school who was so very nice to everyone and for me that was so amazing. He is a great example of kindness and I will always remember that.

**Emily Wegener (Martin)** - January 13, 2019 at 04:02 PM

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“ Darren Dean sent a virtual gift in memory of Collin Bentley Russell



**Darren Dean** - January 02, 2019 at 03:38 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with you at this trying time.

**Darren Dean** - January 02, 2019 at 03:41 PM

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“ When I think of High School friends, Collin is one of a very small handful of names that immediately comes to mind. My favorite summer during high school was by far the one between sophomore and junior year. After getting home from work in Salt Lake, I would go pick up Collin and Alexa Snelten in my little red Jetta and we would just drive. We never had a destination or a purpose, but in a way that was nice. We weren't constrained by time or any obligations- we were able to just throw on some music and observe the passing world from the confines of my little old car. How Collin managed to fit in the back of that car is anybody's guess- Collin was a gentleman and therefore let Alexa sit shotgun, confining himself to what he called "the cave," or the small back seat of the two door car.

Collin had a knack for theatrics. There were a few times I can recall in my parent's basement where funny and creative song parodies would be concocted on the spot, odd faces and noises were made, and fantastical worlds were created. Countless movies were watched and many crazy games of Mario Kart were played, all while Patrick Star from Spongebob watched us, drawn by Collin several years prior and not quite ever able to be erased fully. He was one of the funniest people I have ever

known, and attribute my now long-gone abs to his randomness.

I'm gonna miss you, man.

**Scott Fidel** - January 02, 2019 at 12:01 AM

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“ I have known Collin and had the privilege of working with Collin in our ward young men’s organization. Collin was a great young man and a deep thinker. He was extremely bright and always looked up to his brother Dallin. My most recent memory was working with him as a volunteer at the Hope Clinic with Bro. Tom Roberson. Collin was great to those who went to the clinic, most are indigent people who have no health insurance. Collin was great with these people, served them with kindness and compassion. I will always remember him as a kind and gregarious young man. See you on the other side Collin!

**Juan Becerra** - January 01, 2019 at 10:55 PM

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“ Five years ago I returned from New Zealand for a couple weeks (serving a mission with my husband at the time) because Collin's cousin Brian had been in a serious accident. I stayed with my brother Jonathan (Collin's dad) and Laurie. Collin wasn't sure how to put gas in his new car and was afraid to ask for help. I said: "Come on Collin - let's go" He drove his car to Costco. We both got out and I just took him through the steps with him standing by my side - - " turn the engine off, insert your credit card quickly, choose the type of gas, insert the hose, and pump!" He just wanted someone to show him, but was afraid to ask. We got back into the car and he said: "Thanks, Aunt Diana!! I just needed someone to show me!" I knew he was relieved that it really was an easy process. He just didn't know how and needed some guidance. Collin was a very sweet, thoughtful young man. Always sensitive. As a little boy, he was so mild and gentle and simply adorable. As he grew older he became a strikingly handsome man. That was his nature all through his life. I love his tenderness! And Collin always, always had a smile! Of all my parent's grandchildren, I have always thought Collin looked most like my dad; whom he had never met. I smile when I think of that reunion with my mother and of his meeting grandpa Russell for the first time. He will be ok! He has graduated onto better things and now can put behind those struggles and challenges that were taking over. He is relieved and now can concentrate on being at peace and happy and progressing! I miss Collin, but know that this is just a temporary separation and - Ohhhh, how I look forward to our reunion! I love you dear Collin; always have - always will! We are forever family!! xo





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Lauren - January 01, 2019 at 01:34 AM



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The first sweet memory of my Collin is when I was so sick inside after Brian arrived at the hospital. I felt complete panic and was needing someone, anyone to just "FIX IT" for me. I did not know how I could continue living without Brian. The first night was the worst with no sleep and feeling completely paralyzed, afraid to move or make a sound, worried out of my MIND with fear. Collin would come and spend some special quiet time with me, reassuring me that he felt so strongly that Brian would pull through. If anyone told me any different, I banned them from Brian's room. Collin's sensitive spirit knew what I needed to hear, even if he didn't believe it, he knew to be so supportive for that is what I had to hear to be able to hold onto hope. Collin brought that sweet, silent, peace with him. His voice was so quiet and calm as he talked to me and he would stroke Brian's arm. He wanted so badly for Brian to make it as we all did. I will always love, love, love this boy for loving me and for confiding with me and sharing his deepest thoughts with me. His greatest joys in life were his family and friends and he was also incredibly grateful to everyone and every small blessing that he acknowledged in his journals, from the bed, he slept in, to the warm water he showered with. HE WILL BE SO MISSED. I can't even think about Collin at this time without tears flowing down my cheeks. He brings peace wherever he goes and has blessed so many lives. The hole in my heart has grown much larger, but it belongs to Brian and Mom and Dad and all of those I cherish. What a blessing to have known Collin, if only for a brief time. I love you dear Collin. I will miss you forever and ever and long for the day when I can hug you again. I am so proud of you for the struggles you fought and the smile you kept through your trials. It just doesn't seem fair but then life isn't fair and we only learn when we are struggling. You are a giant among giants and I am so blessed and have a better life because of you. You taught all of us so much that I never would have thought of. Until I see you again which won't be that long, don't ever leave your family. We all still need you and your protection and peace. xox, Aunt Allison

Aunt Allison - December 31, 2018 at 05:44 PM



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You were an amazing aunt to Collin. Always there to the rescue and to give support and guidance. Collin is like a son to you and I am jealous of that relationship you two shared. Definitely a special bond!

Diana Freeman - December 31, 2018 at 07:42 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



**Juan Becerra** - December 31, 2018 at 01:31 AM

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“ Collin has been one of my friends since elementary. He was such an amazing guy and would always bring a smile to everyone’s face at lunchtime. One of the things I have always remembered him saying to me is be “fat and sassy” I can’t remember why but it has always made me smile and remember that I can get through anything! He will be missed and my prayers go out to his family at this time!

**Morgan Bengtzen** - December 31, 2018 at 01:10 AM



“ Darling memory Morgan! The family appreciates these memories so much

**Allison Thaut** - December 31, 2018 at 04:48 PM

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“ So my most cherished memory is Um I believe the year was 2012 in December I was in a private school due to bullying and my school was out for winter break and I had a urge to go to the seminary building at Murray in doing so as i walked in i spotted Collin I said his name he turns around and his face just light up he ran towards me gave me a hig and i told him I had good news that i was going to come to Murray for senior year he smiled and said i hope ill see you again soon and he went to his class and i departed to home I'll miss his hugs he was 1 out of 2 people who helped me in Murray high as well as in elementary school the place we first became friend's and since then he's been my closest friend my go to when i needed it he will always be my buddy me and my family loved him like family i talked about him quite a bit to my grandma before she passed away in 2013 when i enrolled in Murray.

**Joree Davies** - December 31, 2018 at 12:46 AM



“ Bless your heart Joree, Collin gave the very best hugs! He was a true friend to everyone.

**Allison Thaut** - December 31, 2018 at 04:47 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album Collin in Young Mens



**Juan Becerra** - December 31, 2018 at 12:30 AM



“ These pictures make me happy!

**Allison Thaut** - December 31, 2018 at 04:45 PM

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“ 5 files added to the album Collin in Young Mens



**Juan Becerra** - December 31, 2018 at 12:29 AM



“ Ohhh, Collin ... how are we suppose to live without you in our presence? I love you so much!

**Allison Thaut** - December 31, 2018 at 04:45 PM

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“ 3 files added to the album Collin in Young Mens



**Juan Becerra** - December 31, 2018 at 12:27 AM



“ I've been trying to see every picture I can of Collin. Such a beautiful boy.

**Allison Thaut** - December 31, 2018 at 04:44 PM

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“ 4 files added to the album Collin in Young Mens



Juan Becerra - December 31, 2018 at 12:26 AM

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“ 4 files added to the album Collin in Young Mens



Juan Becerra - December 31, 2018 at 12:25 AM

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“ 5 files added to the album Collin in Young Mens



Juan Becerra - December 31, 2018 at 12:23 AM

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“ I don't have pictures. But I knew Collin from elementary school, and growing up I had a huge crush on him. He was always so sweet to everyone he met. He was funny, smart, and made friends with everyone. My thoughts are with you and your family at this time. My mom, Amber Dallof (Lopez) also send her sincerest apologies your family is going through this right now. You are forever loved, Collin. Your smile will be missed. You are a true light.

With love, Kysa Lopez



kysa lopez - December 30, 2018 at 09:05 PM

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“ Nicholas lit a candle in memory of Collin Bentley Russell



Nicholas - December 30, 2018 at 08:42 PM

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“ Well I don't have any memories or pictures. I'm glad that he had a great life with those were surrounding him and It's sad to hear that he is gone but may he safely Rest In Peace and know that he's with god now. Now he's not hurting anymore. I know you may not see this Collin but I love you man and sorry that I couldn't be there to message you everyday to make sure that someone who was there in your heart. Much love from me aka Nicholas Williams

Nicholas - December 30, 2018 at 08:41 PM