



## Braden Alexander Fening

April 21, 2020

Braden Alexander Fening, age 21, suddenly on April 21, 2020.

Braden was born on February 5, 1999 in Manassas, VA. Anyone who had the privilege of knowing Braden knows he had a gentle and kind heart. He had a smile that would light up a room even in dark times. His hugs were heartfelt and comforting. Braden was a loving son, friend, and boyfriend, and a gentle human being. Words can't describe how much he was loved and will be missed by all.

Braden is survived by his mother, Elizabeth Fening and his bonus father figure, Joseph Murphy. His beloved girlfriend, Thalia Wyatt, half sister, Asia Kiley, maternal grandparents, Diana and Edward Fening, multiple aunts and uncles who were more like sisters and brothers, Richard Robertson, Sarah (and husband Robert) Watson, Samuel Fening, Rachel Fening and Nicholas Fening, multiple cousins who have always looked up to Braden and last but not least, his best friend and faithful companion, his dog Prince.

We are so grateful for the outpouring of love and support during this time. Thank you to all those who have sent kind words and gestures. If you knew Braden, you know that he was such a giving soul. In lieu of flowers, anyone wishing to honor his memory please make a kind gesture towards another. He would be so proud to know that we spread a little more kindness and love in the world that he unexpectedly left behind.

Once quarantine and social distancing are lifted, a celebration of life will be scheduled.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Braden Alexander Fening*

January 12, 2023 at 12:00 PM



“ *Braden was a complete delight to be around and I am heartbroken to learn of his passing.*

*One of the last times I saw him was about 20 years ago when he was hospitalized. I joined his beautiful loving Mom, Liz and his wonderful grandmother Diana Lynn Fening as well as his great young aunts and uncles.*

*It was Christmas Eve in a Northern Virginia Hospital and we all watched in amazement as Braden took over the place as well as the hearts and minds of everyone there as he raced around the place with that adorable smile which always captivated anyone who ever met him. It is ironic that I learned this just before Christmas!*

*To know him was to love him as he hugged and kissed everyone he met.. I am not on Face Book and an old friend called me about this tonight. I write this with heavy tears running down my face and with a broken heart. I will include Braden in my morning and night prayers and I am sure he will give me a big smile with as well as all the love he has in his heart.*

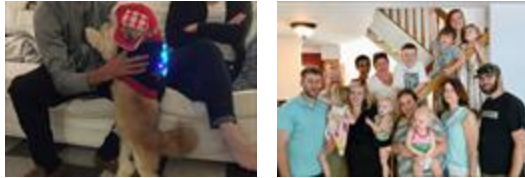
***GOD BLESS YOU BRADEN!!!!!!!!!!!!***

*Fred J. Mutz  
Orlando, Fl*

**Fred J. Mutz** - December 23, 2020 at 10:09 PM

KK

“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



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**Kris Kinkade** - April 29, 2020 at 08:37 PM

KK

“ My deepest sympathies go out to Liz, Diana and all the Fenings on this sorrowful occasion. I know Braden was very much loved by you all and he will be sorely missed. My time and opportunities to interact with him were when he was a teenager and he encompassed all the great qualities you find in a teen without any of the negatives. He was smart, inquisitive, challenging (in a good way), helpful, and sincere. I so looked forward to hearing news about how he was going to excel in doing the things he loved to do during my time knowing him (it was art and video game design back then). I'm all the more saddened to know that he won't get that chance now. When people used the cliched phrase "he was a great person" you often wonder if they are exaggerating or being insincere. But I can say with all sincerity that he really was. From the comments I'm seeing here, it's clear he had a positive affect on so many people and I'm not the only one that thought this way. It's also very clear that he left us too soon.



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**Kris Kinkade** - April 29, 2020 at 08:19 PM

JK

“ Jennifer Kalb lit a candle in memory of Braden Alexander Fening



Jennifer Kalb - April 28, 2020 at 02:42 PM

RS

“ My deepest sympathy to Liz, the Fenning family and everyone impacted by Braden's life and loss.



Rob Stillwell - April 27, 2020 at 04:58 PM

PS

“ First I would like to share my condolences with the Fening Family. My heart was saddened and shocked over this news last week. As Bradens elementary physical education teacher, I can honestly say that I really do remember him! I remember what a kind hearted gentle soul he was back then. Though he was sometimes limited in being able to participate, that never kept him from cheering his classmates on or supporting them in some way. I remember Braden was not only bright but had a wonderful sense of humor. He had a way of taking negative situations and making them lighter....always putting a positive spin on life. I will always remember Braden for his big bright outlook, smile and attitude in life. I will look upon our paths crossing in this life as a gift. Braden will forever be in my heart and memory. You all will be in my prayers. I promise to do many good deeds in Bradens honor. Love and prayers to you all,  
Patty Swanson

Patty Swanson - April 27, 2020 at 12:56 PM

HO

“ Holly lit a candle in memory of Braden Alexander Fening



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Holly - April 27, 2020 at 10:28 AM

HO

“ Braden was one of the first people to welcome me into the Fening family and I am forever grateful. He always had a smile on his face and would always offer the most loving hug. I remember him calling Nick on Nick's birthday. The amount of joy he brought to Nick's face is forever stuck in my mind. One of my favorite memories was having a group board game night. He would make everyone laugh by jokingly arguing with them. He was suspicious of every single person playing the game and did not hold back accusing them of being "Secret Hitler". His sense of humor was unapologetic and so memorable. I'm going to miss the amount of laughter he would bring me just by sending messages, lovingly making fun of Nick. One of my other favorite memories was watching him create a "pour paint" with Liz at the twin's birthday party. He seemed so proud to make a beautiful work of art with his mom. I miss his laugh, how happy he made others, and his loving hugs. I'm so sorry the Fening family is going through this and I know his memory will last on forever.

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Holly - April 27, 2020 at 10:27 AM

BC

“ Liz my thoughts and prayers are with you. Braden was a sweet young man and a pleasure to be around. I had the privilege of hiking, “Old Rag Mountain” with Braden, Nick, Diana and Brenda. That was a great day for all. Even if you didn’t tell Braden you were sending him on a hike with 3 old women. Braden maintained his his beautiful smile and he graciously lended a hand when one of us old people needed help crossing the rocks. That day is a memory I will hold close to my heart.

*With love, Donna, (Puddin)*



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**Brenda Callahan** - April 26, 2020 at 02:20 PM

BC

“ Liz, my heart is with. You did a phenomenal job raising such a kind, compassionate young man. The memories I have of him when he was little and attended Occoquan Elementary, he had so many friends and the little girls had such crushes on him. He never did anything wrong. His Elementary school picture I still have on my key ring. His love of nana Sara’s green beans and his great technology ability to come over and teach us how to operate the cable remote. As he grew older his beautiful smile never changed nor did his compassion and patience. A memory I will have forever is our “Old Rag” hiking experience. Braden was the perfect gentleman. He said, “ My mom didn’t tell me I was going hiking with old people”. Even though he could have finished that hike hours sooner he never left us old ladies behind. He stayed with us. That is one of the best days of my life. The fun we had the sights we saw, and the time we spent hiking is a memory I am so grateful to have. Every time I think of that day my heart lights up. Braden left a path of smiles and kindness wherever he went. That smile and kindness will forever be here. We loved him so very much. His beautiful smile will always be here. We love you.  
Brenda and Nana Sara



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**Brenda Callahan** - April 25, 2020 at 11:23 AM



“ I Have You In My Heart Plush Blanket was purchased for the family of Braden Alexander Fening.



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April 25, 2020 at 10:45 AM

DR

“ To all the Fening family , beloved Liz and Diana  
My heart, love and prayers are with you now and forever ! Your beloved Braden and his light and capacity for love and joy shall be remembered always. My time with him was when he was Middle school age, but I loved hearing his adventures and the family fun throughout the years . He and you all are sunshine in this world . Heaven burns brighter now with Braden’s shining spirit. Forever love.  
Debbie Ruppert and family



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**Debra Ruppert** - April 24, 2020 at 09:48 PM

MD

“ Mark DiNardo lit a candle in memory of Braden Alexander Fening



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**Mark DiNardo** - April 24, 2020 at 12:57 PM

EM

“ Extending my deepest sympathy to the Fening family. I pray for your strength and peace during this most difficult time.

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**Earl Myers** - April 24, 2020 at 08:49 AM

EM

“ *Earl Myers lit a candle in memory of Braden Alexander Fening*



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**Earl Myers** - April 24, 2020 at 08:40 AM

CM

“ *Christy McDougald lit a candle in memory of Braden Alexander Fening*



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**Christy McDougald** - April 24, 2020 at 07:37 AM

CM

“ *Liz,  
You and Braden were such an incredible team. I was always in awe of you and the sacrifices you made as a young mom to ensure Braden received the medical care and treatments he needed. It is an honor that I was able to watch Braden grow into such a fine, young man. I'll never forget Braden's sheepish grin, his old soul, and his sly sense of humor...oh, and his knowledge of zombies! Sending my love to you and your family.*

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**Christy McDougald** - April 24, 2020 at 07:36 AM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Braden Alexander Fening.*



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April 24, 2020 at 12:48 AM



“ *Terri Peoples lit a candle in memory of Braden Alexander Fening*



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**Terri Peoples** - April 23, 2020 at 10:42 PM



“ *Liz and Diana I am keeping you and your family in my thoughts and prayers. Braden was a ray of sunshine for me every day during his years at Ashland ES .His smile and sense of humor lightened my day.I loved when he would come back for a visit and give me his amazing hug. Sending you both a huge hug in his sweet memory.*

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**Terri Peoples** - April 23, 2020 at 10:31 PM

CW

“ Dear Liz,  
I remember Braden always being so kind to others. He always had a smile and a hug to give at just the right times. I am at such a loss for words right now because I am so sad to hear of Braden's passing. I remember how the two of you had such an incredible bond with each other and how you were always there for him. Please know that I am keeping you and your family in my thoughts and prayers. ❤️  
Love,  
Carrie Webb

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**Carrie Webb** - April 23, 2020 at 10:06 PM

CP

“ Christine Pinckney lit a candle in memory of  
Braden Alexander Fening



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**Christine Pinckney** - April 23, 2020 at 08:42 PM

CP

“ My condolences to the Fening Family! I pray that God comfort you during this difficult time. When the days become too hard, may the special memories you've shared with Braden brighten your heart.

Christine Pinckney

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**Christine Pinckney** - April 23, 2020 at 08:41 PM

LF

“ There aren't words to express my deepest condolences to you, Liz. From spending time at the hospital with Mimi, Braden definitely carried himself as a respectful and caring young man. I know he was your pride and joy and I know he will be missed by everyone that knew him, but no one will miss him more than you. My heart hurts for you and his family. Please try to find some comfort in all the wonderful memories you've had together. You're in my prayers.

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**Lisa Whitley (Kristy's friend)** - April 23, 2020 at 08:38 PM

FZ

“ Extending sincere sympathies to Braden's entire family, especially to Grandma Diana Fening, with whom I worked at Occoquan Elementary School. My heartfelt condolences to all family members and friends. ❤️ Fraida Zusman

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**Fraida Zusman** - April 23, 2020 at 07:56 PM

LU

“ I'm so shocked to hear this. What a special and loving young man. I met Braden on a family vacation and immediately fell in love. He soul is a wise and caring one whose impact will be eternal. My heart goes out to the family with love.

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**Lucretia** - April 23, 2020 at 07:16 PM

RL

“ Our family meet Braden about 6 months ago and we all fell in love with him. He always had a bright and warm smile and he was really funny. He attended our meeting to encourage us and he really did. If he didn't come he was sorely missed because of his warm spirit! He was obviously loved muchly by Liz and Joe. There was a strong bond of love and support on all sides. We will miss uou Braden.

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**Rob Sharon Leake** - April 23, 2020 at 06:15 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Braden Alexander Fening.*



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April 23, 2020 at 05:33 PM



“ *Julie just sent me the notice. I had met Braden who is my GREAT GRANDSON only Twice when I visited Va, He made such an impression on me My heart is so sad for him and Liz.*



*We had dinner with most of the family and had a great time. I went out to smoke and Braden immediately got up and offered to keep me company. He was such a pleasant young man and full of life. I am so sorry ! Liz I know he was the love of your life !*

*If there is anything I can do for you please don't hesitate to let me know. I WILL TRY MY BEST TO ATTEND HIS MEMORIAL. If you need to talk just call me. Love to you and all of your family and friends. Again I am so sad such a lively young man would be taken.*

*Love and all of my thoughts are for you and your family & friends*

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**PJ Brenner** - April 23, 2020 at 05:04 PM



“ *Sarah Newman lit a candle in memory of Braden Alexander Fening*



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**Sarah Newman** - April 23, 2020 at 04:58 PM

BT

“ *Barb Timm lit a candle in memory of Braden Alexander Fening*



Barb Timm - April 23, 2020 at 04:49 PM

KB

“ *Kristin Blais lit a candle in memory of Braden Alexander Fening*



Kristin Blais - April 23, 2020 at 04:02 PM

SS

“ *I only had a few chances to hang out with this young man but enjoyed every time I did. Helped him catch this quite rare bowfin in the KOA pond. Rest in peace young man.*



Scott Speller - April 23, 2020 at 03:51 PM

RE

“ *Rebecca lit a candle in memory of Braden Alexander Fening*



Rebecca - April 23, 2020 at 03:48 PM

RE

“ We shard many memories and I will never forget any of them. We have went to movies where Ron made fun of us because we fell sleep or times we fell sleep in car and woke up to Ron driving us to Dc to catch Pokémon for 8 hours lol. Car shows and car projects you and Ron did. And more. How no matter what you were always there when I needed someone to talk to. Your a amazing person and this shit is so hard to deal with you are our family. No matter what your mom and family needs we will have their back for you. Malachi for the past year has been trying do his hair like you as you made a awesome impression on him as you have a lot of people in life. I have attached pics of your amazing work of sticker bombing and photography as well as times we shared. I love you with all my



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Rebecca - April 23, 2020 at 03:46 PM