



Samuel Alexander Beam, Jr.

February 7, 1947 - July 15, 2021

Samuel Alexander Beam, Jr. "Alex," went to his eternal home with his Heavenly Father and Savior, Jesus Christ, on July 15, 2021, after battling a long illness. He was surrounded by his adoring family. Alex was born in Iredell County on February 7, 1947, to Samuel and Dorothy London Beam. Alex was preceded in death by his parents and his granddaughter, Eden Tilton.

Surviving family includes his wife, Daisy Alexander Beam, children, Michele Tilton husband Keith, Samuel Beam III wife Sara, Travis Beam, Darla Pastwick husband Derek, grandchildren Luke and Benjamin Tilton, Savannah and Sailor Beam, all of Mooresville, and sister, Nancy Tant husband Brian of Huntersville.

Alex was a successful entrepreneur and businessman. He worked very hard throughout his life, beginning with his father's milk delivery business as a young child. He took over his father's milk delivery business Beam Distributors and continued to deliver milk after his father's unexpected passing, after high school. He worked fulltime plus more before and after class while working his way through 7 years of college. After graduating from Mooresville Senior High school, Alex first attended King's College in Charlotte earning an Associates in Science in Business. He then went on to attend Davidson College, where he graduated in 1973 with Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science. An article was written on him upon graduation, titled "He Earned a Davidson Diploma the Hard Way." It told how Alex would wake at 2 a.m. to deliver milk, go to all his classes, go back to work, then do his homework. Dr. James

Causey, Alex's Spanish professor, who became a close friend and best man in his wedding, spoke in the article saying, "Alex is modest and acts as though his life is nothing special. But Alex's story is the most spectacular I can think of...I have never known, in all my forty years of teaching, a boy to work quite so hard as he has...he is an inspiration to others." In that article Alex attributed most of his success to "God's strength". This sums up most of Alex's life - he was very hardworking, successful yet humble, God-fearing, and faithful. While in college, Alex joined the Davidson Volunteer Fire Department, and would occasionally leave class to go fight a fire, retiring from the department after volunteering for over 35 years. During his time of firefighting, he won both the Mecklenburg County Distinguished Service and Lifetime Fireman Awards. Alex was also active in the Davidson Lion's Club where he won the Lion of the Year Award. In 1982 he was a founder of the Annual Davidson Christmas Parade (now the North Mecklenburg Christmas Parade) and helped managed it for many years. Alex was an active member of the National Model T Club and Model A Club. He was an active member of the local Hornet's Nest Regional Antique Automobile Club of America (AACCA) and National AACCA Vintage Car Club most of his adult life. He and his wife, Daisy, won numerous achievement awards for their preservation of historical automobiles at both the local and national level.

Besides the love he showed for God and his family, vintage automobiles, history, and race cars were his greatest passions. Saving money from mowing lawns, Alex bought his first car at age 15, a Ford A Model, and he began doing work on the car over the years - lovingly restoring it; he never sold it. While in college in 1968, seeing a need for parts for his Ford Model A, he established and operated Beam Distributors Antique Automobile Parts business from a small shop he built behind his mother's home in Davidson. With the help of his wife and young children he would sale and ship various car parts all over the world. A short time later, he also established Beam Distributors Trailer Sales running it for over 40 years. During that time, he enjoyed working close daily with his son Sam for over 25 years selling trailers

and passing on his business knowledge to all of his children. He continued to manage and operate those businesses alongside his loving wife and children who are honored to continue operating some of those family businesses to this day.

From his youth, Alex began to collect extensive knowledge of vintage automobiles and race cars with the dream of opening a car museum to share his love and knowledge for these historic treasures. In 2001, he established Memory Lane Museum in Mooresville where he was curator until his passing. Through this avenue he provided automobiles, props and set locations for many commercials, print, and motion pictures. His extensive knowledge of automobiles will remain a legacy.

Alex was an active, long time member of Bethel Presbyterian Church in Cornelius. He taught Sunday School and was a deacon and Elder at the church. His kids will always cherish that their mother and father taught them about Jesus, not only at home and in their life, but by actively serving the Church and Community. He cherished his wife, and children and his grandchildren. He was honored to help baptize all five of his grandchildren in the church he so faithfully served.

Throughout his life, Alex openly professed his ardent love for his Savior, Jesus Christ. His main concern each day was to teach his children the importance of the Word and to dedicate their lives to serving Christ. He also wanted others to know the Gospel and that life with Jesus was more precious than anything on earth. 2 Corinthians 5:8 tells us, "We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord."

A Service of Witness to the Resurrection of Jesus Christ will be held in Cornelius at Bethel Presbyterian Church at 3pm on Thursday July 22, 2021. For those who are unable to attend the service, you may go to the following link for the live stream <https://www.facebook.com/CavinCookFuneralHomeServices/>

The family request no flowers and in lieu of flowers, donations be made to

either Samaritan's Purse or the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association.
Cavin-Cook Funeral Home and Crematory, Mooresville, is serving the Beam family. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.cavin-cook.com.

Previous Events

Funeral Service

JUL **22**. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Bethel Presbyterian Church
19920 Bethel Church Road
Cornelius, NC 28031

Tribute Wall



“ So sorry for your loss. Prayers to all the Family.

Kim Helms - July 23, 2021 at 11:34 PM

MB

“ Daisy, I am thinking of you and your family. I am so sorry to hear of Alex's passing. Praying for you all.

Misty Brooks - July 22, 2021 at 09:47 PM

RL

“ so sorry to hear great men.my prayers are with family.

ray lamm - July 22, 2021 at 07:58 PM

VM

“ Dear Daisy and family, our thoughts and prayers are with you during this time.

Love in Christ,
Michael and Roni Moore.

Veronica Moore - July 22, 2021 at 07:38 PM



“ Our hearts are with you, Daisy, and your sweet family today & always. Our memories of our families growing up together in Bethel Presbyterian Church will always be cherished. Keep all your memories of Alex close to your heart & he will always be with you til you meet again...one sweet day. ❤️ We love you all!

Russ & Mary

Russ Mary Moore - July 22, 2021 at 03:17 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Samuel Alexander Beam, Jr..



July 22, 2021 at 07:24 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Samuel Alexander Beam, Jr..



July 21, 2021 at 08:42 PM



“ *Serene Retreat* was purchased for the family of Samuel Alexander Beam, Jr..



July 21, 2021 at 03:10 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Samuel Alexander Beam, Jr..



July 20, 2021 at 11:41 AM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Samuel Alexander Beam, Jr..



July 20, 2021 at 08:27 AM



“ *Guiding Light Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Samuel Alexander Beam, Jr..



July 19, 2021 at 08:31 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray* was purchased for the family of Samuel Alexander Beam, Jr..



July 19, 2021 at 12:36 PM



“ *Magnificent Life Spray* was purchased for the family of Samuel Alexander Beam, Jr..



July 19, 2021 at 12:04 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Samuel Alexander Beam, Jr..*



July 19, 2021 at 11:29 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Samuel Alexander Beam, Jr..*



July 19, 2021 at 09:08 AM



“ *Alex was my "Lion" friend from Davidson. He had the patience of Job when it came to his leadership of the Christmas Parade and community service of all those many years. Thank you Alex, God Bless you Daisy and family.*

Joyce Mihuta

Joyce Mihuta - July 18, 2021 at 11:52 PM

DW

“ Alex was a wonderful man who always thought of others. His racing and car knowledge was phenomenal! Conversations with him were always enjoyable and never long enough. There was so much to learn from him. He always looked for ways to help people, including hosting multiple autograph sessions to raise money for those who needed financial assistance. I always had an open invitation from him to sell my books in his Memory Lane Museum store. I don't think many people are aware of his contributions to numerous movies. They included the barn where Harry Hog built Cole Trickle's cars in "Days of Thunder", cars for the Robert Redford movie "Havana", and cars for the movie "The Color Purple". His racing and antique car collection is unbelievable, one that requires at least an hour to enjoy. Alex will be missed tremendously, but he will never be forgotten. With deepest sympathy and condolences to his family.

Deb Williams

Deb Williams - July 18, 2021 at 04:08 PM

KS

“ Alex

You have been a huge influence in my life. Your devotion to God, family and community has always shined through. Thank you for sharing your passion of cars with me and all the support you and your family have given us.

Keith and Leslie Sultana

Keith Sultana - July 18, 2021 at 02:18 PM



“ *Guiding Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Samuel Alexander Beam, Jr..*



July 18, 2021 at 02:16 PM



“ *Alex was a kind loving gentleman. He will be missed by all who knew him. He is now at peace with eternal Father in Heaven 🙏*

Rosemary Pastwick - July 18, 2021 at 12:47 PM



Alex was a friend to me in my time of need, also willin to do for oters, prayers for Beam family and knowin alec will be missed by many friends.

Jimmy Johnson - July 22, 2021 at 08:58 PM



“ *Thank You Alex for bringing the Light of Christ into both your home and community. Your faith and humbleness is reflected in your beautiful family and the love of those who will continue your legacy. Our prayers and condolences to Daisy, Darla, Sam, Michelle and Travis, and their families. Your love of Alex still shines on. Sincerely, Kimberly and Emerson Manning*

Kimberly Manning - July 18, 2021 at 12:20 PM

DR

“ Dane Rudolph purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Samuel Alexander Beam, Jr..



Dane Rudolph - July 17, 2021 at 11:48 PM

PW

“ Alex Beam befriended me from absolutely out of nowhere after I wrote *Silent Speedways of the Carolinas*. He called me one evening asking how he could get some copies for his bookstore at Memory Lane. He also told me that day about going to J.B. Day's the next Sunday for Raymond Parks' birthday party. From that one call Alex opened up a whole new world of historical events and shows and friendships as I was able to get to know dozens of racing personalities that I would have never ever met on my own. He treated me as an important racing personality when I was anything but. We'd call each other just to chat, he invited me to have book signings of my own at Memory Lane, and loaned me items from there for a display at the museum in Spartanburg. He never charged me a cent and treated me like royalty. He came on our Saturday racing radio show whenever I asked and even let us do a show from Memory Lane once. I love Alex Beam and will forever cherish the times we spent together. His kindness and generosity to me were endless. Rest In Peace Alex and God Bless your wonderful family.

Perry Allen Wood - July 17, 2021 at 09:13 PM

LR

“ Our hearts are saddened to have lost such a good friend. He loved old cars and would come down to Bruster's Ice Cream to the car show whenever he could and he would bring the old Milk Delivery Truck. Alex was our very first sponsor of the car show and stayed with us for the 16 years that we had sponsors. He was the greatest man ever and there is a very special place in Heaven for him. You soar on high with the Angels Alex and watch over all of us who love you. Prayers for Daisy and the whole family. We'll miss you our dear friend. Love Linda and Art Rahtes

Linda & Art Rahtes - July 17, 2021 at 09:10 PM

RP

Alex was a kind gentleman. He will be dearly missed by all who knew him. He is healthy, whole, and at peace with his Heavenly Father. Rosemary Pastwick 🙏

Rosemary Pastwick - July 18, 2021 at 12:43 PM

DP

“ Alex will truly be missed. He was a great man, very likeable and very friendly. I enjoyed all of the good times at Hornets Nest Region Car Club events, especially visits to the Memory Lane Museum. Prayers to all of the family members.

Darrell Page - July 17, 2021 at 07:25 PM

RE

Mr.Beam was a,fine example of what a Christian is suppose to be,you'll be missed .R.E.Reams and Family.

Ronald E.Reams - July 17, 2021 at 11:21 PM

JE

“ Alex was a true pearl on earth with his friendship and leadership. Heaven has gained a true angel flight high our friend. Prayers for comfort during this time for the family.
Joey & Karen Eubanks

Joey & Karen Eubanks - July 17, 2021 at 05:46 PM

JM

“ Alex & Diane (as we called her) lived beside our grandmother Julia Cashion in Davidson. I have many fond memories of going “exploring” around the milk trucks at the Beam home when we were visiting from Florida with my grandmother. Prayers to the family.
Judy Cowan Morrow

Judy Morrow - July 17, 2021 at 12:48 PM

BN

What a faithful servant and inspiration to others!

Bill Norberg - July 17, 2021 at 03:43 PM

CB

*Alex was truly a servant of God. We are saddened at his passing, but rejoice knowing that he is no longer in pain and suffering. Daisy, we send our love and prayers to you and your family in the days ahead. May you feel the love of God through that of family and friends at this difficult time.
Nelson & Carolyn Bass*

Carolyn Bass - July 17, 2021 at 04:07 PM

LG

Daisy and family and Nancy and family, praying for you all for the “peace that passeth all understanding”.

Linda Gurley - July 17, 2021 at 04:18 PM