



When I'm Gone

When I come to the end of my journey
 And I travel my last weary mile
 Just forget if you can, that I ever frowned
 And remember only the smile
 Forget unkind words I have spoken
 Remember some good I have done
 Forget that I ever had heartache
 And remember I've had loads of fun
 Forget that I've stumbled and blundered
 And sometimes fell by the way
 Remember I have fought some hard battles
 And won, ere the close of the day
 Then forget to grieve for my going
 I would not have you sad for a day
 But in summer just gather some flowers
 And remember the place where I lay
 And come in the shade of evening
 When the sun paints the sky in the west
 Stand for a few moments beside me
 And remember only my best



Playlist

- Song Cry by August Alsina
- I'll be Missing You by Puff Daddy
- I Lived by One Direction
- Broken by Lifehouse
- Angel of Mercy by Black Label Society
- See You Again by Wiz Khalifa
- If Today Was Your Last Day by Nickelback
- Thankful by Beth Hart
- Need a Favor by Jelly Roll
- Live in the Sky by T.I.



Honoured to serve the family of Dakota Findlay
 To send a condolence, please visit our website or scan the QR Code
www.cornerstonefuneralhome.com | 403-381-7777 (24/7)



Lovingly Remembering

Dakota Findlay

April 19, 1994 – August 31, 2022

Remembering Dakota

It is with profound sorrow and deep sadness that we announce Dakota's passing on August 31 at 6:00 p.m., surrounded by his family at the St. Michael's Health Centre, Palliative Care Unit at the way too young age of 28. He died as the result of a catastrophic brain injury suffered from a stroke.

Our Dakota MacKenzie was born on April 19, 1994 at 1:19 p.m. – a gorgeous, perfect little boy. We would quickly discover that he was born with serious congenital heart defects that would soon begin a lifetime of open heart surgeries, his first one being in Ann Arbor Michigan, and the rest at the Mazankowski Alberta Heart Institute in Edmonton. He conquered horrific hurdles and walked alone in the dark, but always came through, full of radiating light.

He is survived by his adoring mom, Jodi-Lynn Findlay (Kortt) (Ed Williams); father Ron Findlay; brother Dustin Findlay; grandparents Jim and Jini Rogers and numerous extended Kortt and Findlay families. He was predeceased by his grandparents, Ray and Mildred Findlay, his uncle Wes and his grandfather Gus Kortt. He will also be sadly missed by his beautiful jet black cats, Jasper and Harlem, whom he worshipped, and have now joined our family with open arms and will continue to be spoiled.

Dakota was well known for his restored 1990 Toyota Supra 2JZ GTE, his pride and joy. It would turn heads and win awards at car shows all over Alberta, including Driven, where he won Best in Class in 2017. That car was a major project that he and his step-dad, Ed, lovingly worked on together for years.

He loved watching basketball and hockey, and was an incredibly fast skater back in the day when he played minor hockey. When watching games, whatever team you were rooting for, he would purposely cheer for the other, even if he didn't really like them. Besides cars, he loved food! He made the best burgers and could turn something out of a box into a gourmet meal. The Food Network was constantly playing on his TV. If you followed him on Instagram, he was always posting stories of what he was making and eating on a daily basis. His dream was to go to culinary school. He also loved music and would sing along to every song that came on the radio, word for word, no matter the genre. He mostly worked in construction and especially liked roofing as well as woodworking, enjoying the beauty of cedar, in particular. Dak also had a knack for photography. His photos were always interesting and stunning and told the story of his soul.

Our beautiful long lashed, brown eyed Dakota grew up always seeking the next adventure, enjoying trips to Las Vegas and having the opportunity to go to Dream Racing, where he drove several exotic sports cars at lightning speed around the track.

Dakota lived his life. He feared absolutely nothing and lived fast and loved hard. He had a heart of pure gold. He was sensitive, determined, handsome, fun, hilarious, witty, kind, and a good friend, but he was also a spitfire and a handful! We know he is now up in heaven, probably raising a little hell!

Suddenly he was gone. We knew he would leave us someday, we were just hoping for more time. It's not goodbye, it's "we will see you later". We will miss your huge smile and tight hugs. Thank you for the memories, our sweet, sweet Dakota. We loved you fiercely and know, without a doubt, that you are finally at peace.

Dakota's family would like to give a heartfelt and gracious thank you to the numerous heart surgeons, ICU doctors, specialists, physio and respiratory therapists, nurses and recent palliative care doctors and staff who, over the years, and especially over the last few weeks, were relentless and caring and did their very best to give him every possible chance at life. Thank you, thank you for leaving no stone unturned.

If you have been thinking about adding a pet to your family, please consider a rescue. Dakota always had a can of cat food in his back pack, in case he ran into a stray in his travels. Donations in memory of Dakota's love for cats to Wag-a-Muffins Rescue can be made to: donate@wag-a-muffins.com



Celebration of Life

Cornerstone Funeral Home
 2825 - 32 Street South, Lethbridge, AB
 Wednesday, April 19, 2023 at 1:00 PM
 Officiant - Reverend Glenda Wert

Order of Service

- Processional: *Song Cry* by August Alsina
- Welcome
- Reading of the Obituary
- Reflection Song: *I'll be Missing You* by Puff Daddy
- Tribute from Friends
- Slideshow
- Final Words
- Recessional: *Live in the Sky* by T.I.

Reception

Family and Friends are invited to further share this day,
 Dakota's 29th birthday,
 in the Cornerstone Reception Room

it's never been about
 winning or losing.
 it's about living your
 life unafraid to do
 either. —bross
 the poet

