



Leland Yates

September 29, 2008 - February 21, 2026

Leland Yates

Liberty, South Carolina

Leland Yates, age 17, passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, February 21, 2026.

Born on September 29, 2008, in Greenville, South Carolina, Leland was the beloved son of Eulas Yates and Elisha Mann Yates. Though his time here was far too short, Leland made a lasting impression on everyone who knew him. He had a passion for playing Call of Duty, spending time fishing, and making memories with his friends. He especially enjoyed riding dirt bikes where his competitive spirit and sense of fun shined through.

Leland was known for his kind and selfless heart. He was always willing to lend a helping hand to family and friends, never hesitating to show up when someone needed him. He had a special gift for listening and offering comfort, making others feel valued and understood. His caring nature, loyalty, and genuine love for those around him will be remembered and cherished forever.

In addition to his parents, Leland is survived by his girlfriend, Kaylee Reece; sisters, Bella Yates, and Kassidy Seay; nana, Deborah Mann; grandmother, Mama Sandy; aunts and uncles, Scotty Mann (Kim), Clifton Yates (Leslie),

Bandetta Cehen (Tim), and Kerry Cehen (Elise); and numerous cousins.

Mr. Yates was predeceased by his grandparents, Martha McGill Bishop, Mark Bishop, and Derrill Mann; great-grandmother, Kascenia Underwood; and cousin, Story Yates.

Visitation will be held on Friday, February 27, 2026, from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM in the sanctuary of Pickens Church of God with a funeral service to follow at 2:00 PM. Burial will take place following the service at Hillcrest Memorial Park in Pickens.

Mountain View Funeral Home is serving the Yates family.

Cemetery Details

Hillcrest Memorial Park

2410 Gentry Memorial Hwy
Pickens, SC 29671

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 27. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Pickens Church of God
127 McDaniel Ave
2596
Pickens, SC 29671

Funeral Service

FEB 27. 2:00 PM (ET)

Pickens Church of God
127 McDaniel Ave
2596
Pickens, SC 29671

Burial

FEB 27 (ET)

Hillcrest Memorial Park
2410 Gentry Memorial Hwy
Pickens, SC 29671

Tribute Wall



“ *I miss you, 17 years wasn't anywhere near long enough.*”



E - April 21 at 06:54 PM



“ *Oh precious Leland, we miss you so much sweet boy your soul was so precious and sweet and delicate. Not a day goes by I don't think of your goofy laugh and all the funny things you would say about my glasses when I wore them. I miss you and love you sm.*”

Kayleagh - April 17 at 05:07 PM

KA

“ I miss you more than words could ever possibly describe and I will never understand why you had to leave so soon but I know you are having the best time up there. I still remember when you sent me a TikTok about fighting me and you said “lol sending this knowing I would hit you 😂 ” and it autocorrected to would instead of wouldn’t and we couldn’t stop laughing about it, and how you would always text me and then after I text back waiting for a reply u would fall asleep and the next morning you would say “sorry kk I fell asleep”. I miss being spammed with the most random tiktoks everyday, and how you said I was a forever a sister to you. I miss being called “sis” and “sissy” and I would call you “bubs” or “bubby” you were the sibling I never had and I will forever thank God for sending me such a blessing of a brother that wasn’t by blood. You got me through so much in my life and I couldn’t have thanked you enough for it, I still look for you in everything even the simplest things. I miss you so much bubs, until we meet again, fly high angel. ❤️



kaylei - April 12 at 11:47 PM

KA

“ Hey Leland, I know we hadn't known each other long, but I knew from the moment we started working in that group together, that we were gonna get along like brothers. I've found out so many ways we were alike, and I hate that I didn't get to know you better. You had the sweetest heart and the kindest soul. Fly high, man.

kaden - March 24 at 01:34 PM

CT

“ Hey leland, our project is due today, wish you were here with us, I miss you everyday, your life was taken from you too soon, my heart hurts for all your family. Fly high, watch over us. See you soon

Cameron Tate - March 24 at 01:15 PM

GK

“ So very sorry for your loss. Our son goes to LHS too and so we send a prayer to your entire family plus all of his friends at Liberty High School. May God truly comfort you as only He can during this difficult time and all the days to come. Greg, Mira, Dalton and Dillon Kelley



Greg Kelley - March 05 at 08:57 AM

GL

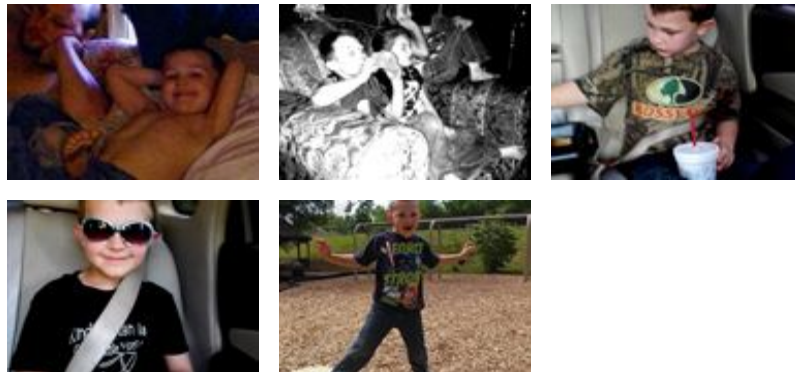
“ Gracie Lusk lit a candle in memory of Leland Yates



gracie lusk - February 27 at 04:57 PM

MoV

“ 94 files added to the album Life Tributes



Mountain View Funerals and Cremations - February 27 at 09:30 AM

BR

“ You will be missed Leland. I will definitely miss seeing you everyday at school, and definitely seeing that big bright smile on your face no matter of what was going on. You were one of my closest friends, My heart is hurt. Especially for the family of Leland. You are truly missed. Until we meet again Leland, Love you buddy.

Braelyn - February 26 at 09:40 PM

LA

“ I was one of Leland friends I would give him rides all the time and would would listen to music and vibe I just seen him before this to I'm praying for his family.

london - February 26 at 04:26 PM

AN

“ im one of Lelands friends, Leland I remember all the stuff me, you, elissa, and Koleby did. you will be missed dearly ily bro until we meet again. Prayers for family n friends.!

Anonymous - February 26 at 04:16 PM

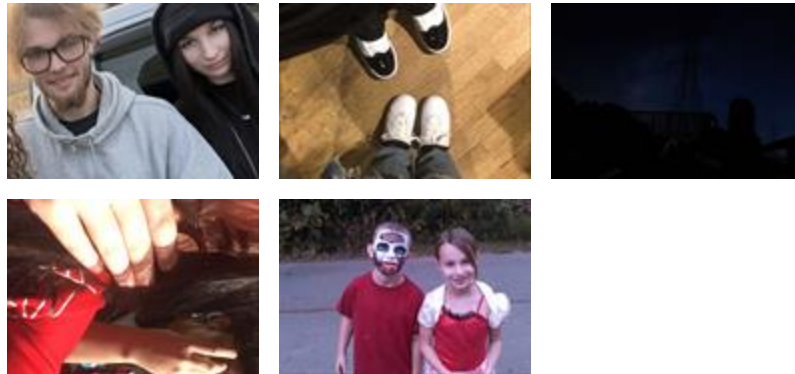
AN

nd ill miss you at school, i remember everytime that we had flex tg.

Anonymous - February 27 at 11:40 AM

TR

“ Leland you always made things simpilar always looked at things as a lesson. You are my little brother, a blessing to me that ill forever be grateful for. Ill remember the way you laugh the way you joke and the way you held yourself. You will always remain my best friend. Till we meet again little brother.



Treasure - February 26 at 12:17 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Leland Yates.



February 26 at 12:07 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Leland Yates.

February 26 at 12:07 PM

KE

“ Kenzie sent a virtual gift in memory of Leland Yates



kenzie - February 26 at 11:40 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Leland Yates.

February 26 at 09:24 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Leland Yates.



February 26 at 09:24 AM

CS

“ Central Textiles Shop purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Leland Yates.



Central Textiles Shop - February 25 at 02:32 PM

CF

“ Crocker family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Leland Yates.

Crocker family - February 25 at 11:32 AM

CF

“ Crocker family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Leland Yates.



Crocker family - February 25 at 11:32 AM

KG

“ To the family,
I am so sorry to learn of Leland's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with you all during this sad time.
Kelly Gilstrap

Kelly Gilstrap - February 25 at 10:43 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Leland Yates.

February 25 at 09:27 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Leland Yates.



February 25 at 09:27 AM

CB

“ Cliff, Leslie, Renee and bandetta purchased the *Divine Peace Bouquet* for the family of Leland Yates.



Cliff, Leslie, Renee and bandetta - February 25 at 07:27 AM

CB

“ Cliff, Leslie, Renee and bandetta planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Leland Yates.

Cliff, Leslie, Renee and bandetta - February 25 at 07:27 AM

EY

“ Son I miss you so much right now that I’m breaking inside. I know you are in HEAVEN without a doubt in my mind. But I know that if you was here right now you would look over at me and say (bruh) why you crying😭. You was the very best any father could ever dream of having as a son and know that even though you was only 17 yrs old you was so mature beyond your yrs. I remember riding dirt bikes with you and watching you do some crazy thing on one of the bikes and just shaking my head and at the same time thinking he’s just like his daddy👊👊👊. But the best of all my many memories of you has and will always be the day you came into this world. As I looked down on your beautiful face I knew right there you was something special. And that between you and your sister my world was complete. I wish you was still here so we could continue to keep making memories together but you was called home and I know one day when it’s my time you will be standing at those gates saying (bruh what took you so long). I love you so much and in my LELAND voice and his favorite thing to say (bruh) I will see you again!!!!!!!



Eulas Yates - February 24 at 11:54 PM

TW

I DIDN'T KNOW YOU,BUT YOU ARE SPECIAL. I CAN TELL. TAMMY WHITLOCK

Tammy Whitlock - February 25 at 01:11 AM



Patricia Spearman

Elisha an family am so sorry to hear Leland passing my God wrap his arms around y'all during this time may he rip he was such a wonderful young man (Trish & Ala) 🙏🙏🙏

Patricia Spearman - February 25 at 12:11 PM

NW

“ *Never was a dull moment with leland around, all the good laughs, he would never judge anyone, glad all the memories we had together going back and fourth on music, just talking on a personal level, or even me helping him with his work, we miss you man, wish I could've got to see you more.* ”

Nate W - February 24 at 11:27 PM

LB

“ *Leland was one of my closest friends i had met him in 7th grade and we've been friends since then and it's been 3 years and we've made so much memories together and i only wish we could've made more.* ”

Luke Brackett - February 24 at 11:15 PM

AN

“ *I was one of Leland's close friends when he was in N.C he was a very sweet and loving person and rarely got angry he was always helpful to ppl and always made sure everyone was ok before himself.i will miss sending him TikTok's and texting him abt random stuff. LLL 💕😔* ”

AnnaBelle - February 24 at 10:25 PM

PO

“ It hurts my heart that i will never be able to see him in class again. I was one of his first friends when he moved back in middle school. You would never see him angry or upset he always had a smile on his face and was always making people laugh and smile. I remember playing Fortnite with him. It would always be fun and we would always be laughing at each other. Im going to miss that. I remember going to church with him and just having long stupid conversations with our friends or being stupid in the back of mr. Witts class and always getting in trouble. Im so sad you couldn't be successful i know you would have been amazing. ily. Long live Ieland.

Payton Owens - February 24 at 10:10 PM

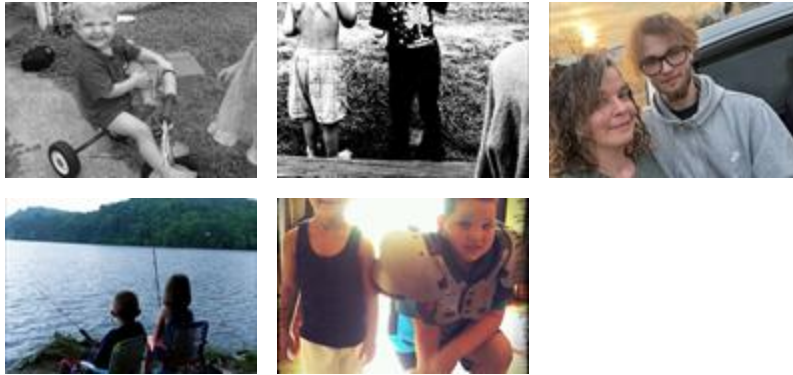
ES

“ I remember when you came over to Kolby's and we would sit down and talk about tattoos you would do on my arm. We use to laugh about stuff from school we talked about. I remember when you lost your glasses and I was sitting on them and almost broke them😭 you was a good person and friend to everyone!

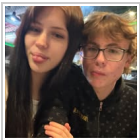
Emily Smith - February 24 at 10:03 PM

EL

“ I love you son! You always seen the good in everyone, I don't think you ever met a stranger. You had one of biggest hearts I've ever seen. I'm going to miss everything about you; your smile, your hugs, you calling me "bro" (yes I'm going to miss that), most of all I'm going to miss those random messages that you would send just to let me know you love me. I know you're with the loved ones that went before you but we sure miss you down here.



Elisha - February 24 at 09:53 PM



“ I miss when we used to come in class everyday and goof off together, I wish I could have those moments back and it sucks living on knowing those would be my final moments seeing you before you moved away, never saying goodbye. We miss you and you're always in my heart and everyone else at Crest. You've truly made an impact on everyone and you'll always be my bestest friend. You're a one of a kind person and I hope we cross paths again someday. I hate that things turned out like this for you, you always talked about if you died and it broke my heart to hear you talk that way and to find out what had happened to you. I hope to see you someday and it's hard to wrap my head around you being gone. I'm forever going to remember the kind person you are and one of the best friends I'll ever know in this life. I love you bro and I hope your well.

Brayden Petty - February 24 at 09:37 PM

SA

“ My life is better for knowing you, Leland Yates. You were so easy to love and even though you never really needed my help, you still found your way to my office most days. I will miss your “bro...” and then telling me about an annoying class, or asking for a snack, or talking about Kaylee- who you loved so much. I’ll miss you randomly finding me in a hallway and asking to come sit in my office. I’ll miss you telling me about life and asking for the millionth time how you could graduate early, which I just knew you were going to do. I’ll miss your slow smile and kind heart that all of the students who knew you gravitated to. You were a calm, sweet presence to our school and a blessing to my life. You will be so missed, Leland. I took for granted I would be able to see you on Monday and will forever be sad I didn’t let you ditch English to sit in my office and work last week. Thank you for being so kind to me, always saying “love you” back, and reminding me of the best parts of helping students.

sarah - February 24 at 09:02 PM

MK

“ Praying for Strength and peace for your family! ❤️



Melissa Knight - February 24 at 08:01 PM

CR

“ Cheryl Raines lit a candle in memory of Leland Yates



Cheryl Raines - February 24 at 07:56 PM

AL

“ Elisha and Aunt Debbie. My heart is so heavy for you all. Robert and I have been praying for comfort during this difficult time. No words can comprehend the loss that you all feel. We love you.

April Ledford - February 24 at 06:34 PM

DM

“ Leland will always be a wonderful part of my life. God blessed me with a wonderful grandson that was a joy to be around and had a heart of gold. Nana loves you baby boy. Give your papa a hug for me and I will see you both when I get to Heaven. ❤️❤️



Deborah Mann - February 24 at 05:30 PM

DM

So sorry for yalls loss iv known the yates family for many many years my heart hurts for your family 🥺💔

Diane morris - February 24 at 07:20 PM

BB

i'm going to miss when we used to hang out at school back when he lived in N.C. Ieland was one of my closest friends and was always there for me and everyone in the group, i'm gonna miss the random calls and jokes passed around. fly high brother. gonna miss you. LLL💔

Brayden barrows - February 24 at 10:47 PM