

## Professor Nathan Alexander Remembered

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A month ago, I had the pleasure of spending an hour online with Nathan's sister, Rachel, so when Dr. Karen Ross just asked me to pull a memory from my brain, I thumbed through my phone's memory, like Dumbledore rummaging through the vials near his pensieve. This story speaks of legacy and synchronicity. Dr. Alexander was the Academic Advisor for the Nepali, or Nepalese, students. Around the time that he was diagnosed with leukemia and was making the arduous decision of hospital preference in Washington near his parents or Massachusetts near his daughter, the Nepali students at Troy University suffered a great tragedy. Two cars full of Nepali students were involved in two separate wrecks on Highway 231 heading towards Montgomery. Many of those students were hospitalized, some long-term. One even passed away. Nathan was so concerned about his students that it took his mind off of his leukemia. He even put off heading for treatment for a few weeks so that he could help them through the tragedy because he felt that they needed him. Here in Troy, we remember that he was a wonderful and caring Academic Advisor.

The Alexander family has a friend named James Beiger. He currently drives a shuttle at an airport out on the West Coast where he recently picked up a young man from Nepal. As he drove, the two of them conversed. James came to find out that this young man had gone to Troy University where his old friend, Nathan Alexander, had worked. It turned out that this young man had been one of Nathan's Nepali students. Now, I don't know if this young man had been involved in this wreck, but he certainly had to have been here when all of that happened. He expressed nothing but love for Nathan Alexander.

Imagine how wonderful it must be when your son's touch reaches from beyond the grave to send a young man to a family friend, especially when the young man had such love and affection for that son. May we all have such positive influences on the people we meet in life.

Patty Jones