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Gone Too Soon: UVI Pays Tribute to Freshman Kareem Pinney with Memorial

The University of the Virgin Islands is dedicating a memorial and vigil to Kareem Pinney, inviting the campus to commemorate his life and the dreams he pursued in the short time he was with them

Community Center / **Published On November 04, 2024 03:43 PM /**

Staff Consortium **November 04, 2024**

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UVI honors Kareem L. Pinney, an Applied Mathematics major and freshman at the Orville E. Kean Campus, who tragically lost his life. By. UVI

The Virgin Islands community is in mourning following the passing of Kareem L. Pinney, a bright young student with dreams of building a future in the field of applied mathematics. Pinney, 17, who was a freshman at the University of the Virgin Islands (UVI), was [fatally wounded](#) in a shooting incident that occurred near his family's home in the Grandview Apartments Housing Community on Sunday, November 3, 2024.

Kareem Pinney was enrolled in UVI's College of Science and Mathematics, pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Applied Mathematics. His promising future was tragically cut short in an act of violence that has left his family, friends, and the wider UVI community in shock and grief.

"My heart and prayers go out to Kareem's family and friends. This is a tragedy of epic proportions. The quick and violent end of anyone is senseless and horrible, but the loss of someone so young tears the soul apart," said UVI President Dr. Safiya George. "I offer condolences also to the UVI community. A member of our University family has been taken, and I join you in mourning his passing. Know that the University community is here to support you during this difficult time."

UVI said its Office of Counseling and Placement has made resources available to students and faculty in need of support. Students are encouraged to reach out to the Director of Counseling Services, Dahlia Stridiron, at the St. Thomas campus, who is available for in-person sessions. Virtual counseling options are also accessible through Patricia Towal, Director of Counseling and Career Services, for those who may prefer online support.

In addition, a memorial space for reflection will be set up on Tuesday, November 5, in the East Residence Hall for students to gather and share memories of Kareem. A vigil is also being organized to honor his life and legacy.

Beyond the walls of UVI, Kareem Pinney's former classmates from Eudora Kean High School's Class of 2024 shared a moving tribute to remember their friend, describing him as "an extraordinary young man who was loved throughout the campus halls and by so many for his kindness, generosity, and comforting spirit." The heartfelt statement from his graduating class reads, "It is difficult to find the right words to express how much he meant to all of us as a class."

The tribute noted his accomplishments as an honor student and an athlete, and his plans to continue his education. "May his legacy of love and compassion continue to live on," they wrote.

The University of the Virgin Islands will continue to provide updates and further details on commemorative activities via their official website and social media channels.