



Alex Duong, Comedian and 'Blue Bloods' Actor, Dies Aged 42

Description

Alex Duong, a Vietnamese comedian whose career in acting and touring began to gain momentum, passed away on Saturday morning in Santa Monica at the age of 42. His death was confirmed by his wife, Christina Duong, following a battle with a rare and aggressive form of cancer, which left him in septic shock.

In a heartfelt message on social media, Christina praised Duong as a remarkable husband and father, noting his resilience during his year-long struggle with cancer. She expressed that the pain she felt now was minor compared to his suffering.

Duong held a special place at The Comedy Store, described as "family" by the venue. The statement from the club acknowledged his unwavering dedication and vibrant spirit, which he brought to performances every night.

Born on March 20, 1984, in Dallas, Duong was the youngest of six siblings. He left school to pursue his screenplay "Enchanted Melody," though it did not secure funding. The work was adapted into a stage play by the East West Players, a prominent theatre company showcasing Asian American narratives.

Before his diagnosis, Duong was set to tour with Ronny Chieng and had guest-starred in "Blue Bloods." His role was crafted to portray depth and avoid Asian stereotypes, reflecting his commitment to meaningful representation in media.

His condition deteriorated rapidly following a diagnosis of alveolar rhabdomyosarcoma, a rare type of soft tissue cancer. Duong's health challenges began after the Palisades fire affected his living environment, leading to severe symptoms and urgent medical care. Despite initially lacking health insurance, he later secured coverage, allowing him to face treatment head-on.

Duong accrued significant medical debt, reaching approximately \$400,000. The comedy community rallied around him, contributing to a GoFundMe campaign aimed at easing his financial burdens, which has nearly reached \$125,000.

Following his passing, a memorial service is planned at Hollywood Forever Cemetery on April 17, where friends and loved ones will gather to celebrate his life and significant impact. Christina Duong expressed her gratitude for the support received during this challenging time, highlighting her enduring love for her husband.

Vocabulary List:

1. **momentum** //moʊ'mentəm// (noun): increasing movement, progress, or growing success over time
2. **septic** //ˈseptɪk// (adjective): caused by a severe infection that harms the body



3. **resilience** //rɪ'zɪliəns// (noun): ability to keep going after difficulty or pain
4. **unwavering** //ʌn'weɪvərɪŋ// (adjective): firm and steady; not changing or weakening
5. **accrued** //ə'kru:d// (verb): gradually added or built up over a period
6. **rallied** //'ræliəd// (verb): came together to help someone or support them

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. What was Alex Duong's age at the time of his passing?

- Option: 35
- Option: 42
- Option: 50
- Option: 30

2. Where did Alex Duong pass away?

- Option: Los Angeles
- Option: Santa Monica
- Option: Dallas
- Option: New York

3. What type of cancer did Alex Duong battle?

- Option: Lung cancer
- Option: Alveolar rhabdomyosarcoma
- Option: Breast cancer
- Option: Prostate cancer

4. What was the name of Alex Duong's wife?

- Option: Christina Duong
- Option: Sarah Duong
- Option: Maria Duong
- Option: Linda Duong

5. Which comedy venue was Alex Duong associated with?

- Option: The Laugh Factory
- Option: The Comedy Store
- Option: The Improv



Option: Comedy Cellar

6. What was the title of Alex Duong's screenplay that he left school to pursue?

Option: A Beautiful Mind

Option: Enchanted Melody

Option: The Last Laugh

Option: The Funny Side

True-False

7. Alex Duong was the oldest of six siblings.

8. Alex Duong's health challenges began after the Palisades fire.

9. A memorial service for Alex Duong is planned for April 17.

10. The GoFundMe campaign for Alex Duong reached \$500,000.

11. Alex Duong had health insurance when he was first diagnosed with cancer.

12. Christina Duong described her husband's pain as minor compared to her own.

Gap-Fill

13. Alex Duong was born on March 20, _____.

14. Before his diagnosis, Alex Duong was set to tour with _____ Chieng.

15. The comedy community raised nearly _____ for Alex Duong through a GoFundMe campaign.

16. Alex Duong's screenplay was adapted into a stage play by the _____ East Players.

17. The memorial service for Alex Duong will be held at Hollywood Forever Cemetery on _____ 17.



18. Alex Duong's battle with cancer was described as _____ and aggressive.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. 42 2. Santa Monica 3. Alveolar rhabdomyosarcoma 4. Christina Duong 5. The Comedy Store 6. Enchanted Melody

True-False: 7. False 8. True 9. True 10. False 11. False 12. False

Gap-Fill: 13. 1984 14. Ronny 15. 125,000 16. East West 17. April 18. rare

Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What term describes the quantity of motion an object has?

Option: Mass

Option: Velocity

Option: Momentum

Option: Force

2. Which word best describes the ability to recover quickly from difficulties?

Option: Fragility

Option: Resilience

Option: Stagnation

Option: Weakness

3. What term is used to describe a situation where too many people occupy a space?

Option: Comfort

Option: Overcrowding

Option: Spacing

Option: Allocation

4. What is the term for the first event in a series?

Option: Inaugural

Option: Final

Option: Repeat

Option: Consistent

5. What action means to temporarily stop something?

Option: Continue



- Option: Ignore
- Option: Suspend
- Option: Establish

6. Which word means to become actual or real?

- Option: Materialise
- Option: Disperse
- Option: Vanish
- Option: Dissolve

7. What term describes something that causes a major change?

- Option: Transformative
- Option: Static
- Option: Minor
- Option: Negligible

8. What term describes the person who has overall creative control of a television show?

- Option: Producer
- Option: Director
- Option: Showrunner
- Option: Actor

9. What term describes the introduction of something new?

- Option: Tradition
- Option: Innovation
- Option: Reversion
- Option: Routine

10. Which term refers to the study of celestial bodies and their influence on human affairs?

- Option: Scientific
- Option: Astrological
- Option: Astrophysical
- Option: Meteorological

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. Her support for the cause was unwavering, even in the face of challenges and setbacks.

12. The stadium reached its full capacity during the championship game.

13. The interest on the loan accrued over a period of time, making the total amount owed substantial.



14. Regular exercise is beneficial for both physical and mental health.
15. The film was an adaptation of a popular novel, bringing the story to a new audience.
16. She found fulfilment in her career, feeling that her work made a positive impact.
17. The community rallied together to support the local charity event.
18. People often check their Zodiac signs to see what the horoscopes predict for them.
19. The discovery marked a significant milestone in scientific research.
20. The transition from high school to college can be challenging for many students.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. Her resilience in the face of adversity inspired many around her.
22. The project gained momentum after the initial brainstorming session.
23. The workshop was a transformative experience for all participants.
24. The showrunner has a vision that shapes the entire series.
25. Their innovation in technology has changed how we communicate.
26. Overcrowding in the city has led to several logistical challenges.
27. Astrological signs are often used to predict personality traits.
28. The inaugural event of the festival attracted a large crowd.
29. They decided to suspend the meeting until further notice.
30. The adaptation of the book was well received by critics and audiences alike.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Momentum 2. Resilience 3. Overcrowding 4. Inaugural 5. Suspend 6. Materialise
7. Transformative 8. Showrunner 9. Innovation 10. Astrological

Gap-Fill: 11. tireless 12. overcrowding 13. increased 14. advantageous 15. reinterpretation 16. satisfaction
17. united



18. astrological 19. important 20. change

Matching sentence: 1. resilience 2. momentum 3. transformative 4. showrunner 5. innovation 6. overcrowding
7. astrological 8. inaugural 9. suspend 10. adaptation

CATEGORY

1. Entertainment - LEVEL6

POST TAG

1. Alex Duong
2. Blue Bloods
3. C2
4. comedian
5. ESL learning
6. esl news
7. Level 6

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