



Desi A. Dillard, Sr.

August 16, 1975 - April 30, 2026

Desi A. Dillard Sr., age 50, passed away peacefully on April 30, 2026. Born in Cleveland, Ohio, on August 16, 1975, to Sharon Dillard and the late Ernest Jackson Sr., Desi was a man of quiet strength, deep loyalty, and a vibrant spirit that touched everyone he met.

Desi was often described as the "strong, silent type." He was a man of keen observation who didn't need many words to make his presence known or his love felt. His style was unmistakable; a true "sneakerhead," he took immense pride in his collection of Air Jordans and was always impeccably dressed, often sporting his favorite Polo gear. His passions were as bold as his wardrobe, ranging from his love of cars to his unwavering loyalty as a "hardcore" Cleveland Browns fan.

At home, Desi was the heart of every gathering. He lived to host and entertain, finding his greatest joy in bringing people together. As the family's self-appointed "Master Chef," he was legendary for his signature chicken, rice, and gravy. Whether he was traveling to new places, enjoying a good movie, or relaxing with a Heineken or Modelo, Desi embraced life's simple pleasures with a cool, easy-going grace.

A proud 1994 graduate of East High School, Desi was a man who balanced professional excellence with personal passion. He dedicated over 20 years of

his life to the banking industry, where he became a respected expert in lending and mortgage. Most recently, he achieved a longtime goal by joining his "dream company," Progressive, as a Senior Underwriter Specialist. His work ethic was as steady as his character, and he was highly regarded by colleagues for his knowledge and reliability.

Desi's greatest legacy is his family. He is survived by his devoted wife, Alexandria (Johnson) Dillard, and his loving mother, Sharon Dillard. He was the cherished father of Allantae Williams (Erin Harbison), Autumn Johnson, Diaja Chattman, and Desi "DJ" Dillard Jr., and a doting grandfather to Luella. He also leaves behind his siblings, Ebony Dillard and Richard Dillard, and a host of nieces and nephews: Dejah, Aiyana, Ariyana, Shannise, Chandru, Amir, and Alex.

He was preceded in death by his father, Ernest Jackson Sr., and his grandparents: Cleveland and Eloise Coles, Katie Wright, Edward Dillard, and Kathleen A. Gates.

Family and friends are invited to gather for a time of reflection and support on Monday, May 11, 2026, from 3:30 PM to 7:00 PM at Monreal Srnick Funeral Home, 35400 Curtis Blvd, Eastlake, OH 44095.

A Funeral Service will be held at the funeral home on Tuesday, May 12, 2026, at 10:00 AM.

Desi will be remembered for his observant nature, his impeccable style, and the profound, steady love he had for his family and friends.

The service will be live streamed and can be accessed using the following link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89428527855?pwd=AEUVx07B0iitbnis0KXbsFUNLccFb6.1>

If prompted for passcode, please enter 000000.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 11. 3:30 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Monreal Srnick Funerals & Cremations
35400 Curtis Blvd.
Eastlake, OH 44095

Funeral Service

MAY 12. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Monreal Srnick Funerals & Cremations
35400 Curtis Blvd.
Eastlake, OH 44095

Tribute Wall



“ *Monreal Srnick Funerals & Cremations created a Desi A. Dillard Sr. Live Stream in memory of Desi A. Dillard, Sr.*



Monreal Srnick Funerals & Cremations - May 12 at 09:46 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Desi A. Dillard, Sr..

May 18 at 12:33 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Desi A. Dillard, Sr..



May 11 at 11:45 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Desi A. Dillard, Sr..

May 11 at 11:45 PM

TJ

“ Sorry to learn of your passing. Our path hasnt crossed in adulthood, but loved you like a brother in HS. My condolences to your family. RIP, rest well. Much love, Teresita Jones-Thomas ❤️

Teresita T Jones-Thomas - May 11 at 08:12 PM

SW

“ Bruh this hurt. We were talking about linking up as soon as the weather broke. You asked me how I had been since my kidney transplant and couldn't wait for us to catch up face to face. All though I told you numerous times, I'll say it again, thank you for your support through my dialysis and transplant. You don't know what it meant to me to have that encouragement. You will forever remain in my heart bruh. Rest well my guy from your East High c/o '94 compadre.- Mickey

Stanford Wilson - May 11 at 04:56 PM

BG

“ Brittney & Grayson purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Desi A. Dillard, Sr..



Brittney & Grayson - May 11 at 11:28 AM

TF

“ The Fletcher Family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Desi A. Dillard, Sr..



The Fletcher Family - May 11 at 07:11 AM

TF

“ *The Fletcher Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Desi A. Dillard, Sr..*

The Fletcher Family - May 11 at 07:11 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Desi A. Dillard, Sr..*



May 08 at 03:57 PM