



## Nari Salter Mann

December 18, 2020

It is with deep sorrow and much love that the family of Nari Salter Mann, 40, of Manor, TX, share that she passed away on Friday, December 18, 2020.

Nari was born in Des Moines, IA. She is survived by her parents, Leala Mann and Thomas Mann Jr., and her sister, Kari Mann, along with numerous family members and friends. Her grandparents, Alberta Vaughn, Flossie Taylor, George Salter, and Thomas Mann predeceased her.

Nari and her family relocated to Austin, TX in 1992 where Nari came to love her “Keep Austin Weird”, Music Capital of the World, and burgeoning Silicon Hills hometown. She loved her viola, played in statewide competitions, and was offered the opportunity to play as part of an Austin Chamber Music program while in high school. Nari loved hanging out and traveling with friends. For her junior and senior year of high school, Nari began the first of many journeys by leaving home to attend the Texas Academy of Math and Science at the University of North Texas in Denton. The experience was a challenge she reveled in. After graduating, Nari then journeyed to Palo Alto, CA to attend Stanford University. She graduated from Stanford with a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science.

Nari then worked as a computer engineer for various technology companies which provided her the opportunity to travel frequently. Along the way, she developed a love of photography, ethnic foods, and music festivals. She had a passion for live music and traveled to Burning Man, SXSW, Big Ears, Levitation and so many other venues. Nari was a budding stand-up poetry and comedy performer. Nari volunteered with various community outreach groups and one of her favorites was COTFG Austin. Nari left behind her beloved cats, Brownie and Skinny.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

Memorial donations may be made in the name of Nari Salter Mann to either the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 50 Broadway, Fl 19, New York, NY 10004, <https://suicidepre>

ventionlifeline.org; or to NAMI, PO Box 49104, Baltimore, MD 21297,  
by phone at 1-888-999-NAMI (6264), <https://www.nami.org>.

Nari made many late-night calls to the Lifeline and they were always there for her. NAMI offered many support group meetings in person and then through Zoom.

Dearest Nari, the pain you endured for years finally overtook you like the darkness overtakes the sun. But we comfort ourselves knowing that now even on the darkest nights, your star will always shine above and so too in our hearts and memories.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Nari Salter Mann*

October 14, 2022 at 12:02 PM



“ *Lighting a candle for nari.*



**Finn Downs** - June 01, 2022 at 10:00 AM



“ *I am very sorry to hear of Nari's passing. She and I were two of the few African American students at TAMS and we both went on to Stanford. She was always kind to me and I looked up to her. She was clearly a very intelligent and passionate person. May her family and loved ones find comfort during this difficult time. - Michelle LaCour*

**Michelle** - September 28, 2021 at 06:13 PM



“ *Patricia Cochran lit a candle in memory of Nari Salter Mann*



**Patricia Cochran** - May 10, 2021 at 05:45 PM



*I am extremely saddened to learn of Nari's passing. My sincerest heartfelt condolences to the family.*

**Patricia Cochran** - May 10, 2021 at 05:49 PM

AL

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Allan - January 01, 2021 at 03:50 PM

AL

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Allan - January 01, 2021 at 03:25 PM

SP

*Thank you for this picture. I'm the other person in it*

Sean Padilla - February 28, 2021 at 01:51 PM

LM

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Leala Mann - December 31, 2020 at 10:10 PM

MC

“ Nari was extraordinary. We met in 2009 while she was living in Brooklyn and I have always cherished the time we had together. I will never forget how she loved being behind her camera and her amazing photo skills, her love of live music, how she had a fondness for likenesses of Buddha, the way she would twist her hair and her beautiful smile. She had a passion for life that few people have. I only wish she could have been spared all she had to go through with her illness. My deepest condolences to all her family and friends.



Mike Caprio - December 31, 2020 at 06:28 PM

LM

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Leala Mann - December 30, 2020 at 03:39 PM

TH

“ Nari and I met in 2008 at an alumni gathering for the Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science, a school we both attended at different times, and which she memorably referred to as "a boarding school for gifted children." We bonded over music and photography, and over the years we both became part of Church of the Friendly Ghost, a nonprofit organization that hosts music events in Austin. We took long road trips together to festivals in places like North Carolina and Tennessee. Her passion for music connected her with many like-minded friends. To say that she will be missed is an understatement.



Thomas - December 29, 2020 at 05:53 PM

“ Nari had a lot of friends that never became close and a select few that did. In 2014, I began moving towards the latter group, and it began with an afternoon of exchanged texts. Below is an edited excerpt.

*Nari: I'm very concerned with what other people think of me. Too much. So that leads to investing a lot of energy into the constructed self.*

*Allan: When we see each other, do you feel like you're assuming a persona?*

*Nari: I would put it that way, but I am trying very, very hard not to be boring. I pre-plan conversations and keep notes in my phone for talking points, which I refer back to mentally or physically as needed. One of the reasons why socializing taxes me so much and drains my reserves. It's quite exhausting.*

*Allan: Play hooky from the writer's room, and take the risk of me finding you boring.*

*Nari: I don't leave the house without my social scaffolding.*

*While not sharing her mental illness, I relate to some of her social anxieties as well as her occasional willingness to take risks, as a performer, as a writer, and in everyday life. That afternoon's exchange of emails concluded with her sharing her comedy website *Men of Tinder And OkCupid Beware*, which collected her funniest exchanges of texts with romantic prospects. That site was taken down, but other writing, including her poetry, can still be found at her blog, <https://nariposa.wordpress.com/>*



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**Allan** - December 29, 2020 at 03:21 AM

NB

“ I admired Nari ever since I moved to Austin, TX. She was a super passionate supporter of music and had attended nearly every concert I organized in Austin, TX since 2014, I was so grateful for her presence each time.

I'd love seeing Nari at all experimental music gigs in town, as well. We were one of the very few people of color in those circles, so, if she was there in the crowd; I KNEW I was somewhere worth being. She had excellent taste in music.

The last time I saw her was as I was leaving KOOP Radio, last winter. She beamed me a huge enthusiastic smile and said hi. I was so pleased to see her and she looked effervescently beautiful on that evening. A great memory.

I would like to extended my sincerest condolences to Nari's family and if there's anything I can do, just say the word and I will.

Nari was an immensely creative and passionate individual - I'll miss her amazing photography skills and tremendous writing; she was undoubtedly a treasured member of our local musical community and always will be. Tara Bhattacharya

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**Nayantara (Tara) Bhattacharya** - December 27, 2020 at 11:15 PM

TE

“ We have many fond memories of spending holidays and vacations with Nari. She was the sweetest person and had kindest heart. Her determined soul and fierce spirit will live on with us forever. Joyce, Tonya, Gary and Marissa.



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**Tonya Earvin** - December 27, 2020 at 08:33 PM

MD

“ My deepest sympathy to Leila, Tom, and Nari's family and friends. May God keep her and comfort you as you grieve such a tough loss. It's always hard to lose a love one and only time will heal the pain you feel. It always gave me comfort knowing that my dearly departed loved me and wanted me to be happy. So do just that in Nari's memory and one day everyone will be together again.

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**Merlin J Dusuau** - December 27, 2020 at 05:23 PM

BA

“ I read this quote on Nari's page and I was drawn to to it.



*We Are All Broken, That's How The Light Gets In.  
Ernest Hemingway*

*My Father, My God, My Lord, My Savior thank you for our Sweet, Precious,  
Beloved Nari.*

*Aunt Barbara*

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**Barbara** - December 27, 2020 at 05:08 PM

JE

“ *My niece Nari is a spirit soul who loved photography. She would often reach out to me to talk about the art and technique of photography. She loved people and the camera brought her many adventures - from up close and personal images of musicians jamming to quiet and evocative imagery captured in the streets of New Orlean.*

*Nari wanted a photo of Dana Nyad, the Olympic swimmer for her mood board and when she went searching she found a photo that she liked and it turned out to be one I took. It's on her pinterest inspiration mood board. Glad we connected like that. And actually her energy and warmth brought joy to many including me.*


*A poet that she liked wrote-*

*"I fall in love with humanity often, we have the opportunity to love fearlessly and abundantly and its a beautiful thing. - Jessica*

*And in Nari's heart is that love. Good bye sweet spirit. Love you - Uncle Jeffery*

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**Jeffery** - December 27, 2020 at 03:55 PM


 Jennifer Vera

“ *I'm so sorry for this loss and the pain you are feeling right now, and I am grateful to all who are sharing memories and images of Nari allowing me to get to know her brilliance and her talents better.*



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**Jennifer Vera** - December 26, 2020 at 08:37 PM

 Zein Maya

“ *My deepest condolences to the family. Nari was a very special friend to me. We were fast friends online many years ago, and there was never a time when she passed through the NYC area, that we didn't meet up and find a show and a meal. I will miss her terribly so.*



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**Zein Maya** - December 26, 2020 at 05:26 PM

Zein  
Maya

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Zein Maya - December 26, 2020 at 05:17 PM

KT

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Kris Thompson - December 26, 2020 at 01:19 PM

HC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



HC - December 26, 2020 at 01:11 PM

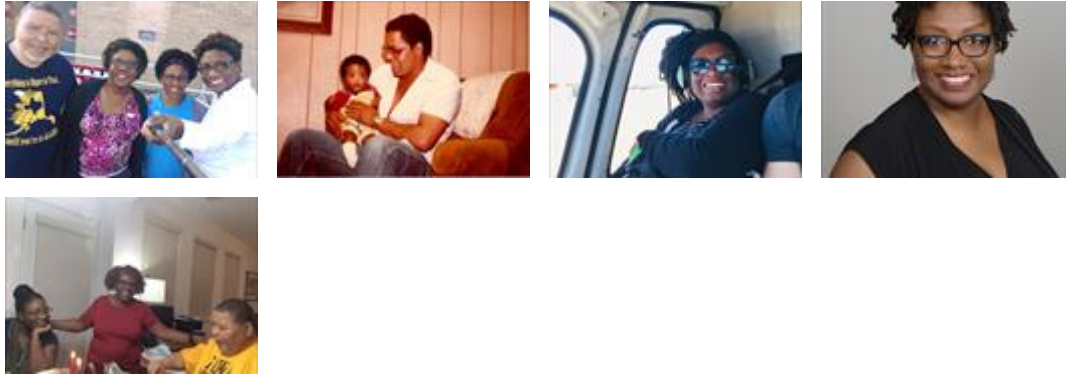
NR

“ I knew Nari was a remarkable person from when I first met her in the company of Lee Jackson at Terrastock 6 in Providence, RI in 2006. What I learned about her either being in her company as I could or via regular online chat from there just confirmed that many times over, but the truest surprise -- the real testament to her memory -- is how much more I've learned from so many others in these recent days. But it's a surprise only on one level because on another, why wouldn't she have such depths, and why wouldn't she have always shown her caring heart so extensively, constantly? It truly was her. My deepest condolences to everyone who loves her, then and now.

Ned Raggett - December 26, 2020 at 12:49 PM

LM

“ 15 files added to the album Memories Album



Leala Mann - December 25, 2020 at 09:25 PM

Jamey  
Leetzow

“ I wish I could have known Nari better. She did so many things that would have been a dream for me- playing the Viola so well and graduating from Stanford. I got to sit and talk with Nari at her sister Kari's graduation party when Kari became a doctor. Nari was so proud and excited for her sister. The posts online about Nari have been the nicest I have ever seen. Nari touched many lives and was a true light in the world. We are so sorry for your loss and if there is anything we can do to help during this time, please let us know. - Jamey and Melissa Leetzow

Jamey Leetzow - December 25, 2020 at 05:48 PM



“ Tom Leala and Kari, Nari was my dearest friend. You were the most supportive family. Her kindness to everyone reflects the loving home she was raised in. I have been honored to know all of you and I will cherish her friendship and memory always.

Sonja Hamilton - December 25, 2020 at 04:19 PM

LM

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Leala Mann - December 24, 2020 at 06:38 PM

LM

“ 20 files added to the album *Memories Album*



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**Leala Mann** - December 23, 2020 at 09:29 PM