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***Luke Roux was killed days after graduating from Farmington High.
His family is helping 2023 grads get home safe***

[Taylor Hartz](#) June 13, 2023 at 5:48 p.m.



Recent Farmington High School graduate Luke Roux was killed in a car crash in July 2022 on his way home from a summer baseball game. Courtesy of Roux family.

Last year, 17-year-old Luke Roux [was struck and killed by a drunk driver](#) just 10 days after he graduated from Farmington High School.

Ahead of Tuesday night's graduation ceremony at his alma mater, the memorial fund founded in his honor handed out free ride-share vouchers to make sure all of this year's graduates got home safely.

Roux, an athlete, musician and academic scholar, was set to join his older brothers at the University of Connecticut in the fall when a man driving home from a concert at the Xfinity Theater in Hartford flew through a red light on the Colt Highway near the

five corners intersection in Farmington, striking Roux's car with his Jeep Cherokee and killing the teen, records show.

To help his legacy of kindness live on, Roux's family launched the [Luke Roux Memorial Fund](#), dedicated to encouraging acts of kindness and safe driving.

As the 2023 graduating class prepared to receive their diplomas from Farmington High School on Tuesday night, Roux's family and their team made sure each soon-to-be graduate had a \$25 voucher to Uber to help encourage them to make safe choices during their end-of-school celebrations.

The vouchers were paired with a card from [Roux's memorial fund](#) that read: "If You Drink Don't Drive, Decide to Ride," with a message of congratulations to graduates and best wishes for their "bright futures."



The Luke Roux Memorial fund handed out ride share vouchers to Farmington High School seniors ahead of their graduation Tuesday night, in an effort to ensure safe driving. Image courtesy of the LMR fund.

Roux had been awarded an academic scholarship to UConn for his strength in math studies, according to the website for his memorial fund. He was killed on June 25, 2022, while he was just two miles away from home.

“It is the LMR fund’s mission to spread awareness about the risks of impaired driving and to encourage others to be proactive with a driving plan when they go out with friends,” the cards said.

As the one-year anniversary of the crash approaches, his parents said they are working to extend their son’s legacy of love, hope and kindness by offering academic scholarships and campaigning for random acts of kindness in Connecticut communities. An initiative to proactively educate drivers on the dangers and consequences of drunk driving has also launched, with Roux’s Farmington classmates being just one target of the campaign.

“Planting the seed of responsible driving choices to this next graduating class — that knew Luke and live in our community — is one of our first steps,” Roux’s parents, Steve Roux and Carri Roux, said in a statement. “They have a future choice to make — if you drink, don’t drive ... decide to ride. We hope this resonates with this graduating class and wish them well in their next chapter of their lives.”

Jacob Coffey, the man charged with fatally striking Roux, has pleaded guilty to charges of first-degree manslaughter, driving under the influence and reckless driving, records show. Coffey, who was 21 at the time of the crash, took a plea deal that includes a minimum of four years in prison and a maximum sentence of seven years in prison, according to court records.

He is scheduled to be sentenced in court in Hartford on June 28, records show.