

= John William Pitt Kinau =

John William Pitt Kʻnaʻu , sometimes called Liliulani (December 21 , 1842 ? September 9 , 1859) was a prince of the Kingdom of Hawaii and the only surviving son of High Chief William Pitt Leleiohoku I and Ruth Keʻelikʻlani . As a descendant of King Kamehameha I , he was chosen to attend the Chiefs ' Children 's School (later renamed Royal School) taught by the American missionary Amos Starr Cooke and his wife , Juliette Montague Cooke , alongside fifteen of his royal cousins . At a young age , he inherited the landholdings of his father and his adoptive grandfather including Huliheʻe Palace , but the prince died under mysterious circumstances before his seventeenth birthday .

= = Early life and family = =

Kʻnaʻu was born December 21 , 1842 . His father was High Chief William Pitt Leleiohoku I (1821 ? 1848) and his mother was High Ruth Keʻelikʻlani (1826 ? 1883) . Through his mother he was Kamehameha I 's great @-@ great grandchild . His mother 's parentage was disputed , but she was a member of the House of Kamehameha through her own mother Pauahi . Through his father , he descended from King Kekaulike of Maui . His father was the biological son of Prime Minister Kalanimoku , who was called The Iron Cable of Hawaii because of his political savvy and military prowess . His name " William Pitt " , shared by his father and grandfather , was originally chosen by Kalanimoku in honor of Prime Minister William Pitt of England . His Hawaiian name Kʻnaʻu was given in honor of the Kuhina Nui , Kʻnaʻu , Keʻelikʻlani 's stepmother and childhood guardian . She in turn was named after High Chief Kahʻʻanokʻ Kʻnaʻu . He had a younger brother who died in infancy . During his infancy , he was raised in a large hale pili (thatched house) named Auanakeo , which stood outside the Huliheʻe Palace , the principal residence of Leleiohoku 's hʻnai (adoptive) father Kuakini , who was the Governor of Hawaii Island .

From 1842 until his death in 1844 , Governor Kuakini served as a grandfather figure to the child . In 1928 Lucy Kaopauli Kalanikiekie Peabody , a hapa @-@ haole (part Caucasian) chiefess , recalled a scuffle between her and Kʻnaʻu in their youth during a visit she and her grandmother paid to the Governor :

One day when we were living at Kawaihae my grandmother went to Hulihee to see Kuakini , who was not well . I went with her and when Kinau saw me he chased me as he always did . I think he did not like me . I ran to my grandmother and she protected me . Kuakini saw me and said to my grandmother to let the haole go and told us to " hakaka " (fight) . She did and we fought . I beat him . Kuakini made fun of Kinau who was about six years old then .

= = Education and career = =

Kʻnaʻu entered the Chiefs ' Children 's School on February 26 , 1844 at the age of two as its sixteenth and last pupil . He was the youngest with Victoria Kamʻmalu and Lydia Kamakaʻeha , both being four years older . He was chosen by Kamehameha III to be eligible for the throne of the Kingdom of Hawaii . He was taught in English by American missionaries Amos Starr Cooke and his wife , Juliette Montague Cooke , alongside his royal cousins . During their Sunday procession to church it was customary for boys and girls to walk side by side , Kʻnaʻu would walk beside Lydia Kamakaʻeha , the future Queen Liliʻuokalani of Hawaii . In Liliʻuokalani 's memoir , he is mentioned as John Kʻnaʻu Pitt . The boarding school discontinued in 1850 , and his family sent him to the day school (renamed Royal School) ran by Reverend Edward G. Beckwith along with his former classmates Victoria Kamʻmalu and Lydia Kamakaʻeha and new classmates Gideon Laʻanui , Nancy Sumner , Jane and Martha Swinton , and Mary Waterhouse . During his youth , the prince was often found on the parade ground of the old Honolulu Fort , instructing his friends while they were drilling as boy scouts . Kʻnaʻu was considered to be a promising young man with an extremely bright mind and leadership qualities .

In 1848 his father died of measles , followed by his classmate Moses Kekʻʻiwa . Leleiohoku , the

sixth @-@ largest landholder after the Great Mahele , had inherited the estates of his biological father Kalanimoku and his h?nai (adoptive) father Kuakini , two of the most power chiefs in the kingdom . Leleiohoku had received thirty @-@ six ??ina (land parcels) , mainly on the island of Hawai?i and Maui from King Kamehameha III . Thus after Leleiohoku 's death , K?na?u became the heir to all his father 's property , including Hulihe?e Palace in Kailua @-@ Kona . His ample inheritance made him one of the wealthiest people in the kingdom . He was popularly called the " Prince of Kona " during his lifetime . On his sixteen birthday , the ambitious young prince asked his former classmate King Kamehameha IV to award him with all the lands whose names started with " Wai " (Hawaiian for " water ") such as Waimea , Waianae , Waikapu , Wailuku , Waihee , Waialua , Waikane and so on , a request that the King refused . After completing his education , K?na?u served as aide @-@ de @-@ camp to King Kamehameha IV , and in his lifetime , he was considered " a very handsome young man " .

= = Death and burial = =

K?na?u died on September 9 , 1859 in the Kohala district on the island of Hawai?i . The cause of his death was said to be an accident , although the details are unknown . An accusation of poisoning was forwarded by a noted priest and the whole of Kona became outraged over the rumors . One source claimed he was killed in a riding accident . While his obituary in the The Pacific Commercial Advertiser claimed it was consumption .

Heartbroken over the loss of her husband and son , Ke?elik?lani kept his lead coffin in her house for weeks , with mourners chanting and reciting the kanikau (poetic dirges) night and day . His funeral service was held at Kawaiaha?o Church on Sunday , November 6 , and attended by thousands of natives and foreign residents and visitors including John Henry Anderson and Aleksei Vysheslavtsev ; the latter wrote down a detail account of the events in Ocherki perom i karandashom , iz krugosvetnogo plavaniya (Sketches in Pen and Pencil from a Voyage around the World) . Initially buried in the Pohukaina Tomb , located on grounds of ?Iolani Palace , his remains were later transported along with those of his father 's and other royals in a midnight torchlight procession on October 30 , 1865 , to the newly constructed Royal Mausoleum at Mauna ?Ala in the Nu?uanu Valley . His mother 's remain were also buried here after her death in 1883 . In 1887 , after the Mausoleum building became too crowded , the coffins belonging to members of the Kamehameha Dynasty including K?na?u 's were moved to the newly built Kamehameha Tomb . The name " W. P. Kinau " was inscribed on the mauka (mountainward) side of the monument above his final resting place .

His landholdings and properties along with Hulihe?e Palace were inherited by his mother ; beside his estates , Ke?elik?lani also inherited much of her son 's debt . These lands along with subsequent inheritances that Ke?elik?lani would receive over her lifetime later became part of the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Estate which funds the Kamehameha Schools to this day .

Historian Albert Pierce Taylor , calling him by the name of " Liliulani " , gave this posthumous description of the prince :

He was one of the most ambitious and promising of the young princes of the Kamehameha realm . It is believed by old Hawaiians today that had he lived he would have become a real and constructive leader of the Hawaiian people . He had a splendid physique and a magnetic personality . The glance of his eyes made him friends everywhere .