

# Murdaugh Murders: Just When You Thought Gingers Could Have Souls, Alex Murdaugh Steps In

BY MEGHAN O'HARA

**A**FTER WATCHING “Murdaugh Murders: A Southern Scandal,” it has made me conclude that money really is the root of all evil. Yes, it is fun to have money so you can buy pretty items or go on vacation, but the darkness of power that comes with it shows the true meaning of evil.

Alex Murdaugh, who is a convicted murderer, decided to kill his wife Maggie and his son Paul. Interesting right? Well not really. Alex is an opioid user and he has a dangerous number of guns. You can guess how one thing led to another. Before the murders of his wife and child, his son Paul decided he was going to have a fun night of drinking with his girlfriend and friends. One thing led to another, and Paul had injured all his friends including a death due to his reckless drunk boat driving.

This did stop Paul's everyday life, even though it stopped Mallory Beach's life completely. Paul was able to call his daddy and get away with cold-blooded murder. Which obviously, his dad protected him because he is a murderer himself. Murder sure seems to run in the genes of that family. They even had the mom help cover up murder, but that is another story for another time. These people are psychotic.



Photo Credit: Meghan Schiereck

Nonetheless, all that I have learned from the murders is how powerful money is. Alex Murdaugh bought himself out of imprisonment for both him and his son. Then, he killed his son, which makes no sense to me. This whole case is everywhere. Before Alex Murdaugh went to prison forever, he racked up a murder count of five... WITHOUT ANY PUNISHMENT! HOW?!

To add on to this bizarre case, Alex is not even rich. He was embezzling money from his law firm, which got him in trouble as well. Like, how stupid can one person be? The whole time I was following this case, I really was thinking to myself that Alex needed to pick a struggle. First he is scary looking, second, he embezzles money, and third, he is a cold-blooded murderer.

I will never understand how someone could kill their family, then go about life like everything is normal. Honestly at this point, I question how many people are murderers. People looked up to Alex Murdaugh, he was a town celebrity. Nobody had a clue that there was a dark cloud surrounding the whole family. I am grateful that the family's dirty laundry is now being aired because not only does Buster Murdaugh, who is alive, deserves an apology, but so do the families who are traumatized from the family's disgusting actions.

I would like to end this article with condolences to the families affected by Alex and Paul's actions. I am happy they got the justice and answers they deserve.

# Exploring the Coop: An Inside Look at What it is Like to Own the World's Best Animal

BY MEGHAN O'HARA

**G**ROWING UP, I WAS privileged enough to live on seven and a half acres. We would run in the open fields all day long, while playing games in the green woods with glittering gold sunshine peeking through. However, the mornings were the best.

“Cock-a-doodle-doo,” says the rambunctious rooster named Russel. Russel had beautiful white spotted feathers on his neck that matched his black and white striped feathers. Russel had what you would call a better personality for a rooster. He did not attack, nor abuse the chickens. However, Russel was not my favorite.

With her beautiful black and red feathers, Fi-Fi took home base when it came to which chicken I enjoyed most. She was sassy, smart (for a chicken), sweet, and gorgeous. Fi-Fi is the reason I loved having chickens. Fi-Fi would follow me everywhere around the yard, along with playing with me in the woods. She was not scared of anything, especially my dog. Every time Fi-Fi was around my dog Finn, she would try and knock him out. She was never successful, however, but she did scare him enough that he did not even bother going by the coop when he went outside.

Then there was Eureka, she was a ginger chicken. Eureka was quieter, more on the timid side. Although, that did not stop her from having a personality. Opposite of Fi-Fi, Eureka had more of a motherly instinct. She would hatch eggs every spring and raise those chicks until they were fully grown (do not tell her we sold her rooster babies). Eventually, we had to

stop her from having chicks because at one point we had about 20 chickens running around.

People think chickens are not very smart, or they could never be fun pets because they are just for laying eggs. However, having grown up with chickens, I believe those thoughts are completely wrong. Each chicken proved to be the best pet a little girl could ask for—eggs were just a benefit. Having over 12 chickens, my family gathered around 12 eggs a day. It got to the point we had to start selling them, that was not the best part though. The best part was waking up in the morning and seeing how proud all my chickens were for laying their eggs.

I may sound crazy, but my chickens had facial expressions. I could tell when they were happy, mad, or even sad by looking them in the eyes. That is another reason the chicken is the best pet in the world (despite their smell).

Nevertheless, growing up with chickens taught me a lot during my growing years. I learned about animal science, how to take care of a creature, and how babies are made (it was traumatizing). I was also desensitized to smells and dirty surfaces as chickens are not the cleanest. However, these attributes made me the person I am today. I love taking care of animals and learning about animal health. Heck, if I could become a vet, I would.

Chickens are the best animal without a doubt. They are not just dumb egg laying creatures or food, they are pets.



Photo Credit: Meghan O'Hara