



John P. Gibson

July 31, 1928 - July 31, 2017

John P. Gibson, 89, of Bristol, VA passed away Monday, July 31, 2017 at Wellmont Hospice House. He was born at Lake Junaluska, NC on July 31, 1928, son of the late Herbert and Robbie Reeves Gibson. In addition to his parents, he is predeceased by his brother, Herbert Gibson, Jr. and his two sisters, Evelyn Gibson Hyatt and Carolyn Gibson Doyle.

John attended Sylva Elementary and Sylva High School where he was president of his senior class and graduated in 1945. While attending Western Carolina Teachers College, John worked summers and weekends for Southern Railway as a telegraph operator. He graduated in 1949 and was employed as station agent for the railroad at Murphy, NC. He served in the United States Army for two years during the Korean War. After his service, he returned to Norfolk Southern Railway and worked on the railroad for over 50 years. He retired in 1993 as a National Account Manager.

John married Martha Carpenter in 1965, and they celebrated over 51 years of marriage together. He was an avid traveler, and he and Martha traveled to all of the populated continents. He loved the game of golf, could sing a song for every occasion (and tell you what song was on the flip side), and will be remembered for his dry sense of humor and quick wit.

John was an active member of State Street United Methodist Church where he served as the chairman or member of several committees (when he couldn't talk his way out of it). He was a member of the Kiwanis Club of Bristol and served as president and in other board positions. He was a past Lt. Governor of the Kiwanis Kentucky-Tennessee District. He volunteered throughout the community, including tutoring, serving as a Big Brother through the Big Brothers/ Big Sisters Organization, and volunteering two afternoons a week at Bristol Regional Medical Center as a wheelchair escort.

John is survived by his wife, Martha Carpenter Gibson; and three daughters, Virginia Gibson Pratt, husband Skip and their son, John Preston Pratt of Bluffton, SC; Holly

Gibson Coe, husband Blake, and their two sons, Joshua Blake Coe and Jacob Mitchell Coe of Ashburn, VA; and Robbie Gibson Whitehead, husband Wade, and their children, Jack Dorsey Whitehead and Grace Anne Whitehead of Roanoke, VA.

He is obviously a really good guy and deserves to go to heaven, so, to whom it may concern, please keep this in mind.

A Celebration of Life Service will be conducted at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, August 4, 2017 at State Street United Methodist Church in Bristol, VA with Reverend Jonathan Jonas and Dr. Mark Hicks officiating. A private inurnment will be conducted at a later date at Mountain View Cemetery in Bristol, VA. In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting that memorial donations be sent to State Street United Methodist Church, 300 W. Valley St., Bristol, VA 24201.

Events

AUG **Celebration of Life** 03:00PM
4

State Street United Methodist Church
300 W. Valley Drive, Bristol, VA, US, 24201

Comments



“ I always enjoyed visiting the Gibson house when I was a teenager. Such a fun and loving family. Mr. Gibson was a second dad to a lot of band kids for sure! I know his family is missing him and all of you are in my prayers.

Karen Sproles Elizondo - August 21, 2017 at 08:34 PM



“ Martha, I am so sorry for your loss. I remember John's dry sense of humor that came through many times at the lunch table at the hospital. He will be missed. My thoughts and prayers are with you during this time of sadness and loss.
Ruby

Ruby - August 04, 2017 at 01:19 PM



“ Martha, we are saddened to hear of John's passing. We are going to miss him on Sunday mornings. Danny & Teressa Wallace.

Danny & Teressa Wallace - August 04, 2017 at 05:13 AM



“ Martha, I am so sorry for your loss. John was a good man and you and he are two of my favorite people. You are in my thoughts and prayers.
Dale Mitchell

Dale Mitchell - August 03, 2017 at 07:38 PM



“ Dear Martha, Virginia, Holly and Robbie,

I am very sorry for your loss of John. He was a dear man who was loved by many. I always treasure those memories from the Battle Band days and always remember, "Don't anybody move, my teacher cobbler is missing!" I know Martha remembers that from our band trip many years ago. Those type of memories always bring smiles many years afterwards. I was truly blessed to have John in my life those years as well as the entire and wonderful Gibson family.

My thoughts and prayers are with all of you.

Scott Lambert - August 03, 2017 at 12:28 PM



“ Martha, so sorry for the loss of your precious John. I remember him well when you and i worked at Johnston Memorial Hospital. You are in my thoughts, Bill Hatcher

William A. Hatcher - August 03, 2017 at 06:39 AM



“ Our prayers are with your whole family at this time. May your memories bring you joy and comfort. All our love, The Ralston's

Amy Ralston - August 02, 2017 at 10:18 PM



“ My deepest Condolences for ur loss. Martha, u and John are some of my favorite customers and i am very saddened by the news of his passing. Prayers for you and your family during this difficult time. He will certainly be missed.

Melissa Dawn - August 02, 2017 at 08:33 PM



“ Such a blessing to have got to know this wonderful man! RIP Mr.Gibson,you will truly be missed!

Ella Rose - August 02, 2017 at 07:41 PM



“ Martha,
So sorry to hear of your loss. John was a delightful soul who loved life and made life more enjoyable for those around him.
I will miss seeing him at Wal-Mart and his sense of humor.
Blessings,
Carolyn Sue Blevins

Carolyn Blevins - August 02, 2017 at 01:26 PM



“ Kevin Miller lit a candle in memory of John P. Gibson



Kevin Miller - August 02, 2017 at 11:25 AM



“ Martha I am so sorry for your loss. John was a sweet man and we will miss seeing him in come into Dr Yost office. Calling and reminding you all of your appointments wont be the same now without hearing his voice on the recording. Praying for you and the family.

Amanda Bentley - August 02, 2017 at 09:24 AM



“ Our most sincere thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. Please know that Mr. Gibson will always hold a very special place in our hearts, from being a "Band Dad" from our (Janet and Dee Ingle's) years in the John Battle Band, to mom and dad (Jack and Jean Ingle) seeing him when he was a volunteer at the hospital. He always had a kind word and that beautiful smile. Heaven surely gained a great man. Sending love and prayers,
The Ingle Family
Jack and Jean Ingle
Janice Ingle
Janet Ingle Statzer

Janet Ingle Statzer - August 02, 2017 at 08:52 AM