



## John S. Sizemore Jr.

May 4, 1946 - February 2, 2021

John Shell Sizemore, Jr., 74, of 455 Bernice Snow Rd., Greer, SC, passed away Tuesday, February 2, 2021. Born in Spartanburg, SC, April 5, 1946, to the late John Shell Sizemore, Sr. and Harriet Taylor Sizemore, he was a 1964 graduate of Byrnes High School. He received his Bachelor of Music degree from North Carolina School of the Arts in Winston-Salem, NC. Mr. Sizemore had an illustrious career as a professional tuba player in many orchestras and brass quintets and as a teacher of hundreds of students. He retired from playing but continued teaching at SC Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities and in his private brass studio up until his death. He was an avid fisherman and loved spending time catching the "big ones" with his brother, son and grandchildren. He was a former member of Sharon United Methodist Church from childhood and more recently Trinity Lutheran Church.

He lived his life as a reflection of this verse: Galatians 5:14 For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself". Surviving are his wife of 44 years, Marise Ettesen Sizemore of the home; a son, Christopher Sizemore (Amber) of NC; a daughter, Elisa Sizemore, of Moore, SC; 7 grandchildren, Vaughan, Noah, Eli, Lydia, Paxton, Lillian, and Easton; a brother, William "Ott" Sizemore (Lynda) of Greer, SC; an aunt, Sclena Griffin of Asheville, NC; a cousin, Fredda B. Turner (Reg) of Landrum, SC; 3 nephews and 4 nieces; 2 sisters-in-law, Helen Sizemore of Greenville, SC and Christina Ettesen of Charlotte, NC.

He was predeceased by a brother, Luther L. Sizemore.

Due to family covid restrictions, a memorial service and celebration of life will be announced at a later date.

The family is at the home.

A heart-felt thank you to Dr. Victoria Arlauskas, Dr. Tondre Buck and Dr. James Gossage who treated John with skilled care, concern and compassion for years.

Memorials may be made to Cure HHT, PO Box 329, Monkton, MD 21111 or <http://www.curehht.org/> to support ongoing medical research into the causes, prevention and treatment of HHT.

Online condolences may be made at [www.thewoodmortuary.com](http://www.thewoodmortuary.com).

# Tribute Wall

JS

“ Marise,  
Please accept my sincere condolences. I didn't know John, but It would have been a pleasure to have known him. Having known you, Marise, for a short time At Boyden High School, I know that John must have been a wonderful man. I hope your little sister is doing well. Remember when the three of us went to the Capitol theater (Salisbury) to see Elvis in "Love Me Tender?" My fond memories of that time in life are saddened knowing of your loss. You have been constantly and will continue to be in my thoughts and prayers.  
John Harvey Smith (gigi.john.2011@gmail.com)

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**John Harvey Smith** - May 30, 2021 at 03:06 PM

EC

“ I'll be giving a virtual masterclass to students in Colorado today but my heart will be with John's family and friends in South Carolina. I'll be thinking only about my long friendship with John -- fishing together in Wisconsin with my father (my parents both loved him and he lived for a short time in our house) and, much later in our lives, with Chris (who I wish would get back onto his trumpet). Meeting Marise for the first time at our house in New Hampshire and Noah during multiple trips to their lovely house in Greer. Meeting many of his students and having ongoing relationships with some.

John's passing leaves a hole in my heart that can't be filled. So many memories. I truly loved this strong and giving man.

See you later, John.

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**Edward Carroll** - March 27, 2021 at 10:34 AM

DH

“ *Mr Sizemore was a wonderful instructor and man! I will never forget our first meeting/lesson. I still use the techniques he taught me so many years ago! He will be missed!*

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**Dwayne Hollingsworth** - February 28, 2021 at 02:00 PM

 Kevin Brown

“ *I was honored to be Mr. Sizemore first applied tuba student when the Governor's School opened it's residential campus. I am thankful to Mr. Sizemore who guided me and prepared me for college auditions and All State Band. I never made All-State band until I started taking lessons from Mr. Sizemore. He was such a gentle giant and I am so grateful to him for the life stories and guidance. May God continue to be with the family during this most difficult time.*

*Kevin Brown*

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**Kevin Brown** - February 11, 2021 at 06:35 PM

SL

“ *I am so saddened to hear of Mr. Sizemore's death. He was a patient, kind teacher to my oldest son.*

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**Sonya Ledbetter** - February 11, 2021 at 06:02 PM

ML

“ *John, I will meet our weekly talks at the Governor's School. Your commitment to your profession and students was commendable. You loved your family and beamed with pride whenever you spoke of Noah. You persevered through many obstacles with a smile on your face. You always treated me with kindness, and I am grateful for it. We will miss you but will never forget your legacy.*

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**Mechelle Luster** - February 10, 2021 at 12:25 PM

SA

“ Marise I was so saddened for you on the death of your husband. He sounded like a wonderful person. So talented!! I know hard it is to lose your spouse. My Charles passed in 1997. Carolyn Edwards Miller told me about it. I have fond memories of you from high school.

Susan Waller Abernethy - February 09, 2021 at 11:36 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of John S. Sizemore Jr..



February 08, 2021 at 02:31 PM

LC

“ Will never be able to express the gratitude for what John did for my son Chase Hawkins. He will always have a special place in our hearts. Prayers for the family .  
Ken and Lisa Corn, James and Gloria Hawkins



Lisa Corn - February 06, 2021 at 08:45 PM

 Tim  
Phillips

“ Literally everything I have accomplished as a player and teacher, I can directly trace back to my lessons with John and having had the privilege to know him. He was more than a mentor, he was a good friend who always eagerly taught my students and would play whenever I called. His loss still strikes me deeply as I was planning to visit once Covid was over. My deepest condolences to his family. I cannot imagine your pain.

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**Tim Phillips** - February 05, 2021 at 08:42 PM

CH

“ So sorry to hear of John's passing I graduated from Byrnes with John and always thought a lot of him. We started taking band together in Jr. Hi and i remember how he took to the tuba so naturally. I had heard over the years that his talent had become his profession. Blessings to his family.

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**Caroline C Harvey** - February 05, 2021 at 06:10 PM

LG

“ A temporary good bye to a dear friend. Planning to hear his tuba and enjoy his smile again when God calls me Home.Laddie

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**Larry Gresham** - February 05, 2021 at 01:24 PM

JC

“ Oh John, we go back such a long way, NCSA 1966. So many good times. So Grateful that we kept in touch over the years. You had some huge health challenges and fought them tenaciously as long as you could. Rest in peace old friend. You have left a huge legacy of love in your playing and teaching. Love to you Marise, may you find comfort!

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**John Cheek** - February 05, 2021 at 10:10 AM