



## Charles J. Gorham

June 16, 1930 - May 14, 2018

Charles J. Gorham passed away peacefully May 14, 2018. His life's journey has ended, but those who knew him will remember Charles as an energetic, kind person who loved music and enjoyed a full and happy life. He was at the side of his beloved wife, Ellen Gorham, when she passed away in January, 2016.

Charles was born June 16, 1930, in Atlanta, Georgia to his late parents Phyllis and Don Gorham. He was the brother of the late Martha Nash and Phyllis Apple and is survived by his brother Don Gorham, Jr. He was the father of Deborah Leigh Gorham (Bob Applegate), Scott Brady Gorham (Susan Elder) and Alison Lynn Pedersen (Olie). He is also survived by 4 grandsons; Alex and Andy Gorham, and Blake and Graham Pedersen.

Charles followed his passion for music at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music where he met and married his wife the day before they graduated in 1952. After being offered the Associate Principal Trumpet position in the Cleveland Orchestra by George Szell, Charles enlisted and spent four years playing in the US Air Force Band during which he earned a Master's degree at The Catholic University of America.

After completing his four year tour of duty with the USAF Band, Charles accepted a teaching position at Baldwin-Wallace College Conservatory of

Music and frequently performed with the Cleveland Orchestra under Robert Shaw. In 1969, Charles accepted a position on the faculty at Indiana University and served as Chairman of the Brass Department for many years.

In 1975, Charles co-founded the International Trumpet Guild (ITG) with Robert Nagel. The ITG - still going strong 43 years later - continues to serve professionals, teachers and students interested in the history and performance possibilities of the trumpet. Thinking of his life's work in music, Charles wrote, "The most important facet of my teaching career was to inspire students to achieve their highest performance ability through the integration of knowledge and musical insight."

Charles loved the outdoors. He loved family trips to their summer cabin on Lake Penage in Ontario, Canada. He was an avid fisherman, woodworker and sailor. His keen observations and enjoyment of the natural world opened up many of life's wonders to each of his children.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the Charles Gorham Trumpet Scholarship at Indiana University Jacobs School of Music can be made through <http://go.iu.edu/1YLz>.

Simons Funeral Home, 7720 Perry Hwy, Pittsburgh, PA, will be handling arrangements. A visitation will be held 4-7 PM, 5/16/18, at Simons. All are welcome to attend and share memories, Saturday, October 6, 2018, 2-4 PM Auer Hall, Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, Bloomington, IN with a reception immediately following. You are invited to share a memory or leave an online condolence at [www.simonsfuneralhome.com](http://www.simonsfuneralhome.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 16. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Simons Funeral Home, Inc.  
7720 Perry Highway  
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

# Tribute Wall

SR

“ Dear Alison,

*Jim and I are sad to hear that your dad passed away. We remember Charlie mostly in his beautiful garden filled with lovely flowers and also vegetables. He always was willing to share with us and others.*

*Our sympathy goes out to you and to your extended family. He is now with his beloved Ellen.*

*Sincerely,  
Sharyn and Ji Riley*

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**Sharyn Riley** - May 28, 2018 at 09:28 AM

BM

“ *After retirement, Charles recruited me as crew for his Thistle sailboat, and we sailed together in weekly summer races on Lake Lemon, IN, for many years. He was my introduction to competitive sailing as he was an accomplished racing skipper. He had a sweet disposition, and unlike many skippers, he never lost his temper. He also had a fabulous flower/shrub garden, and gave me plants for my own garden.*

*At regattas, it seemed that all the sailors knew and like Charles, and for years, after he stopped sailing, people would ask me where he was and how he was doing. I will miss him.*

*>> Bill Manwaring*

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**Bill Manwaring** - May 21, 2018 at 12:39 PM

OP

“ 1 file added to the album Charles Gorham Family Album



Olie Pedersen - May 18, 2018 at 12:04 PM

MS

“ We will remember Charles Gorham. Musician, trumpet performer and teacher, entrepreneur, skipper and role-model life-coach for a generation of us. The CG students tribe.

*Most important though, were his roles as Husband and Father, and his “lead by example” way of teaching us those things as well. He set a high bar that I among many am trying every day to live up to.*

*My last lunch with him in Bloomington to do sessions w Ed Cord and Alain Barker, w CG helping me.*

*Again.*

*As usual.*

*God bless CG and the family.*

*-Mike Suttle  
IU CG class of '75*



Mike Suttle - May 17, 2018 at 01:23 AM

Joel  
Sarich

“ *I was saddened to hear of Charlie’s passing. He was much more than a trumpet teacher to me. He was a role model, mentor and friend, as well as a father figure. There is a bright star in heaven, and wonderful trumpet accompaniment to the heavenly choir! Prayers and condolences to the entire Gorham family!*  
*With love,*  
*Joel Sarich*



Joel Sarich - May 16, 2018 at 04:32 PM



“ *Cherished Memories - All White was purchased for the family of Charles J. Gorham.*



May 16, 2018 at 02:03 PM

KM

“ *Mr. Gorham was my trumpet professor at Baldwin Wallace College and became a very good friend. I remember having picnics at his home with the Brass Choir and enjoying Ellen's delicious tomato aspic. He played brilliantly at our wedding (Mr. and Mrs. John Musat) and then moved to Bloomington. He will forever be someone that I will remember and be thankful for his expertise and gentle way of mentoring. May he rest in peace.*  
*Katherine and John Musat, Parma Ohio.*

Katherine G Musat - May 16, 2018 at 01:48 PM

SG

“ 11 files added to the album Charles Gorham Family Album



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**Susan Gorham** - May 16, 2018 at 06:43 AM

KD

“ We are saddened by the news of Mr. Gorham's passing. He was an outstanding teacher and excellent role model. He was a mentor to us both for many years, and as such, was an important asset in our careers. Our sympathy goes to Deborah, Scott and Alison, and to their families. Charlie, thanks for all you have done for so many!  
Kim and Jane Dunnick

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**kim dunnick** - May 16, 2018 at 05:53 AM