



Clarence H. Watson

August 15, 1936 - February 21, 2018

****IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO THOSE ATTENDING THE FUNERAL ON SATURDAY!

High Street will be closed at 10 AM for the Mount Holly 5K and the St. Patrick's Day Parade starting at 1 PM. The Mount Holly police advises funeral guests to come via the Mount Holly Bypass and turn right onto High St (Burger King on right). Go down to the traffic light on Levis Drive and inform the police officer you are attending the funeral at Perinchief's.****

After a short but hard fought battle with cancer, Clarence Homer Watson passed away on February 21, 2018 in Stratford, NJ at the age of 81.

Clarence was born on August 15, 1936 in Philadelphia, PA to parents Julia and Clarence Watson. He had an enormous love for music that he carried with him for his entire life as well as a tremendous work effort. He graduated from The University of the Arts in 1958 with a degree in music theory with a concentration in trombone and where he also was a member of the orchestra, stage band and brass ensemble under the direction of Charles Gusikoff.

Clarence was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1959 and served for two years and played in the U.S. Army Band. Following his discharge in 1961, Clarence began teaching within the Pemberton Township school system where he

taught music for 38 years until his retirement in 1999. He never fully retired, however, and continued to teach lessons at the N.J. School of Music all the way up until the time that he fell ill.

Through his passion for music and dedication to his craft, Clarence was fortunate enough to also be a professional musician from the age of 17. He had the opportunity to perform with Sammy Davis Jr., Frank Sinatra, Lionel Hampton, Marvin Gaye, Elvis Presley, The Temptations along with many others at the Latin Casino, Atlantic City casinos and other venues across the nation.

Clarence is survived by his wife Jeana Watson; his sons, Michael and Tristan Watson; his sister Elaine; his niece Tiffany; his nephew Marek and his daughter-in-law Donna Watson. He is preceded in death by his mother-in law and father-in-law, Jean and Milton Dace.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 3. 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM (ET)

Perinchief Chapels
438 High Street
Mt. Holly, NJ 08060
(609) 267-0399
info@perinchief.com
<http://www.perinchief.com>

Service

MAR 3. 5:30 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Perinchief Chapels
438 High Street
Mt. Holly, NJ 08060
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<http://www.perinchief.com>

Tribute Wall

JC

“ *Mr. Watson was a tremendous musician and band leader at PTHS. He had a marvelous ear for music. I could never fit band into my schedule but he heard me play the piano once and let me perform a solo for our senior concert--I will always be grateful. A few years after I graduated I heard he was going to retire and his assistant was preparing a surprise for him for his final concert--Mr. Holland's Opus style. When the curtain came up for the second half of the concert the look on his face when he saw who was playing was absolute gold. Thank you, Mr. Watson, for those unforgettable experiences and your enduring legacy.*

Jason de Charleroy - March 31, 2025 at 09:12 PM

BL

“ *Clarence Watson was a complicated person. He was an extremely talented musician and teacher. He was my trombone teacher, colleague, and friend ! He was a wonderful trombonist and gifted teacher! He discovered me one day playing in a rehearsal band in Germantown, Philadelphia! That was the beginning of my journey in life as a professional trombonist, He sent me in as his substitute at the Latin Casino in Cherry Hill Nj for one gig to perform with Sandler and Young and I was in the music business! I can never thank him enough for all he did for me in the Music Business and life in general! At times he was like my second father! RIP my friend, Clarence Watson. I will never forget you and everything you did for me, Billy Lederman!*



Billy Lederman - November 24, 2024 at 04:31 AM



“ Clarence H. Watson

October 29, 2022 at 11:57 AM



“ Clarence H. Watson

October 29, 2022 at 09:53 AM



“ Mr Watson was a very special person. He taught my son, Tom, the trombone. My husband and I always enjoyed our time with him. He will be sorely missed

Barbara Doherty - October 24, 2018 at 10:06 AM



“ I am Mr Watson's second son. Having just learned of his demise in July, I share this final thought. Mr. Watson has said many things regarding his relationship with me. The only truth is this. I never knew Clarence. He will never know me. Ever. May this apply to those who survive him.

Paris watson - July 17, 2018 at 10:11 PM

DP

“ Family of Clarence Watson, please find comfort in knowing that the ripple effect of his love of music and ability to encourage and inspire others will be a legacy that lives on forever. My brothers and I thoroughly enjoyed our years at Pemberton Township elementary and middle schools, 1967-74, predominantly because of the fantastic music lessons and band experiences we had under dear Mr. Watson's direction. His passion for teaching music to children played a pivotal role in shaping our lives and that of so many others. As adults we continue to find pleasure in making music. We now teach and share our passion for music with our children, grandchildren, friends, and community. When we reminisce about our childhood, we often mention Mr. Watson, and his sidekick, our other beloved music instructor, Mr. MacDonald. We truly loved them and are so thankful for the years of music education we experienced under their direction. Believe this, his ripple continues. Our heartfelt sympathy to your family, The Petitt "kids", Kenny, Brian, and Donna

Donna Petitt-Voshell - March 01, 2018 at 03:38 PM



“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Clarence H. Watson.



February 26, 2018 at 03:24 PM

GR

“ *My life was forever changed the moment I walked into that job interview at PTHS in 1979. We became family and it stayed that way for almost 40 years in our hearts.*

I will miss you forever and I will patiently wait until you can again play bass for me while I direct the heavenly choir.

Gayle Lederman Rubinstein

Gayle Rubinstein - February 23, 2018 at 05:27 PM

SB

“ *May the Good Lord comfort the family of Mr. Watson.*

He has touched so many of us, and in so many ways.

Such a great musician, teacher, and much more, Mr. Watson embodied what could be accomplished if he or she were willing to apply ones self.

Always providing the encouragement, positive thinking, and motivation and the insight to see what you could be, even if you didn't see it in yourself.

Life lessons a plenty, it wasn't all about music, and boy was he right!

Excellence was his Mode of Operation!

You just had to know him.....

I will miss him, but I do know he and the impact he made, will continue in those he taught and touched.

Thank you for all you did for me, my family and all who came in contact with you while you were teaching in Pemberton Township.

Your Legacy will never be forgotten.

Your student

Stanley L. Bullock

Stanley Bullock - February 22, 2018 at 05:33 PM

JB

My condolences to the Watson family during this difficult time. Thank you Mr. Watson for being a great role model and teaching me to love music. You will be greatly missed. Rev. Jerry Battle PTHS class of 1981

Jerry Battle - February 23, 2018 at 11:32 AM

MW

“ Farewell to my one and only hero. I love you and I will miss you for as long as I’m alive. See you on the other side

Michael Watson - February 21, 2018 at 01:40 PM