



## Michael Stuart Jones

August 9, 1964 - April 21, 2023

Michael Stuart Jones, age 58, of Surfside Beach, passed away Friday, April 21, 2023 at McLeod Seacoast Hospital.

Mike was born August 9, 1964 in East Point, Georgia to the late Ken and Sue Jones. He is a 1982 graduate of Morrow High School and a 1986 graduate of the University of South Carolina. In 2016, he received the Distinguished Service Award for the South Carolina Band Directors Association, in which he was Chairman of Region 5 for 25 years. Mike was also a member of Phi Beta Mu where he served as its Executive Secretary/Treasurer for many years.

Mike continued to play trumpet and conduct for the Pawley Island Community Concert Band. He was also member of the Florence Community Band, Palmetto Concert Band, and a brass quintet. In addition, he enjoyed playing in a rock band called Speakeasy.

He is survived by his brother Todd Jones and his wife, Kristi; nephew Tyler Jones, niece Kelsi Jones and many other loving family members. Mike has also been surrounded by a large group of loving friends he considered his extended family.

A visitation with the family will be 4-6pm, Tuesday April 25, 2023 at Goldfinch Funeral Home, Beach Chapel. A graveside service will be held Thursday, April 27, 2023 at 11am at College Park Cemetery in College Park, GA. There will also be a celebration of live event to honor Mike at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be sent to the Pawleys Island Concert Band. Payments may be made online at [www.pawleysislandconcertb](http://www.pawleysislandconcertb)

and.com or by mail to PO Box 2284 Murrells Inlet, SC 29576.

Please leave online condolences at [www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com](http://www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com) Goldfinch Funeral Home, Beach Chapel is serving the family.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR **25**. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Beach Chapel  
11528 Highway 17 Bypass  
Murrells Inlet, SC 29576  
<http://www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com>

## Graveside Service

APR **27**. 11:00 AM (ET)

College Park Cemetery  
College Park, GA 30566

# Tribute Wall

AV

“ *Mr. Jones was the best teacher I'd ever had, and was hugely influential in shaping how I - to this day - view the importance of hard work, preparation, and consistency. He kept us focused and motivated when we were teenagers in a very distracting world, and empowered us to be better. I am so very sorry to hear of his passing, and I won't forget the many lessons he taught me that went far beyond playing the trumpet.*

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**Alex Vanotti** - November 27, 2023 at 09:26 PM

JF

“ *Jackie Foster lit a candle in memory of Michael Stuart Jones*



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**Jackie Foster** - April 28, 2023 at 04:23 AM

JF

*I taught chorus at Sneed with Mike for a few years. He was an excellent band director. He definitely expected his students to give their very best because he always gave his best to his students. Rest in Peace Mike! I am sure you will make music in heaven!*

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**Jackie Foster** - April 28, 2023 at 04:33 AM

ER

“ Mr. Jones gave my children and his students the following rule and instruction while they were on the WFHS Marching Band, “If you’re on time, then you’re late!” This statement has stuck with them throughout their lives and careers. He was a great instructor and leader. My condolences and prayers are with his family 🙏

Mayor Teresa Myers Ervin  
City of Florence, SC

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Ervin - April 26, 2023 at 10:05 PM

KA

“ We are so sorry for your loss. May fond memories and earnest prayer bring comfort for family and friends at this time. Isaiah 41:13

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Kathryn - April 25, 2023 at 03:45 PM

GK

“ Mike brought precision, clear communication, and a unique style to the podium. I enjoyed playing for him when he conducted the Pawleys Island Concert Band (PICB). I am grateful for the opportunity to make music together with the PICB Brass Choir.

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Gary Krohg - April 25, 2023 at 09:29 AM

MK

“ My 2 children were in his band at West Florence High School. My late husband and I were very active in the booster club. Mr. Jones was a jewel. He was a marvelous band director and friend. I was privileged to know such a fine teacher and great friend. Rest in Peace, Mike. We will meet again some day. Mary Stuart King

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Mary Stuart King - April 24, 2023 at 02:01 PM

DS

“ *Mr. Jones came to West Florence my junior year. He had an immediate impact on our program and me. I have so many great memories of that time thanks to him. He was a fantastic teacher and just a good guy. My sincere condolences to his family and friends.*

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**Dan Schulze** - April 24, 2023 at 12:18 PM

JT

“ *Jacqueline Toney lit a candle in memory of Michael Stuart Jones*



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**Jacqueline Toney** - April 24, 2023 at 09:24 AM

TB

“ *I knew him both as Mr. Jones and also as Mike. He was my band director for my high school career, but he was my next door neighbor for many years more. Outside of school, Mike was a regular dude who loved to soak up some sun and take in a good football game. In school, there was a certain business about him when it came to the band room. He loved to see his kids succeed, and make no mistake, if he was your band director, you were one of his kids. He sort of had a knack for cultivating your best ability in you that way; even if you didn't believe in yourself. I think he enjoyed the competition element of band just as much as making the music. I wouldn't say he was a perfectionist, but on his field, he expected excellence of us because he believed we were capable of it. That's probably the first time in my life I realized there wasn't much point in halfway doing something; and I'd say that summed up Mike pretty well. He enjoyed life and what he did for a living all the way. He will surely be missed. Gone way too young.*

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**Trey Bryant** - April 23, 2023 at 10:50 PM

EH

“ Mike was a dedicated teacher with high expectations for everyone, including himself. A really nice guy who was a lot of fun to hang out with. I’m fortunate to have known Mike as a fellow band director and send my prayers for his family.  
He will be missed by many of us!

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**Elizabeth Hasty** - April 23, 2023 at 09:25 PM

 Steve Rummage

“ Mike, was a band director at a neighboring school in Johnsonville SC when I began my band directing career at Lake City high school. We played each other in football so we became friends outside of the jobs. He changed schools like many of us do and went to teach at West Florence high school where he built a band program that was the strongest in the area of South Carolina I eventually came to work in Florence myself at Southside middle school and I was able to work directly with Mike and my respect for him grew tremendously. He eventually decided to leave West Florence and I transferred from my school to follow him at West Florence. He would come and watch us practice in the afternoons that his schedule would allow. I was not offended but inspired to maintain the standard that he had established during his tenure there. I always strived to live up to his legacy and I felt that during my time there I was successful. But those were huge shoes to fill. Mike Jones was a man like no other in our chosen profession he will be missed tremendously. Good night my friend rest well.

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**Steve Rummage** - April 23, 2023 at 08:01 PM

SL

“ As a band parent, I appreciated Mr. Jones’s discipline and hard work. My band student is a better person because of her experience in his band. He also tutored my son in trumpet, also to his betterment.

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**Susan Lane** - April 23, 2023 at 06:58 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Michael Stuart Jones.*



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April 23, 2023 at 03:29 PM



“ *Mike was the band director at West Florence when my 3 children were there and we were very active with him in the band booster club. He was a gem and I will always be grateful for the part he played in the lives of our children. A great guy. Rest in Peace dear friend. Dave and Janice Goldrick*

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**Janice Goldrick** - April 23, 2023 at 02:23 PM



“ *When I first met Mike I knew that West Florence HS would never be the same. I was his district Coordinator of Music and always a supporter of his programs both at WF and later Sneed. I've never met a better band director, or all around great guy. He and I spent 3 years commuting to the Coker College Band rehearsals. He didn't work with me any longer but it was such a pleasure getting to know him again. He helped me through tough times and we celebrated so many special occasions. Mike will hold a place in my heart forever*



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**Laura Greenway** - April 23, 2023 at 01:35 PM