



## Billy Joe "B.J." Simpson

June 30, 1985 - December 31, 2018

Billy Joe Marshall "B.J." Simpson, 33, went to be with the Lord on Monday, December 31, 2018 at Greenville Memorial Hospital.

Born in Greenville, SC, he was the son of Keith and Anita Batson Simpson. B.J. was a 2003 graduate of Travelers Rest High School where he played baseball from the 7th grade thru his Senior year, having played varsity from the 9th thru 12th grade. He made All Region his Sophomore, Junior and Senior years and in 2001 Travelers Rest High School competed for the 3A Baseball State Championship where B.J. had 2 homeruns in the Game 1 win. To cap off his senior year, he was named to the South Carolina North/South All-Star Baseball Team. After High School, B.J. continued his baseball career having played 2 years at Blue Ridge Junior College in Hendersonville, NC. Due to his love for baseball, B.J. came back to Travelers Rest High School and assisted Coach McKittrick for six years.

B.J. was employed as a Greenskeeper at Willow Creek Golf Course in Greer, SC and a member of Forestville Baptist Church. B.J. loved spending time with his family and friends. He also loved watching his Clemson Tigers, fishing and playing golf. B.J. was very outgoing and kind hearted with a smile that would light up a room.

Along with his parents, B.J. is survived by his brother: Dylan Simpson; sister:

Kaelyn Simpson; maternal grandmother: Joyce Clayton Branton; paternal grandparents: Don and Joy Roach Simpson; uncles and aunts: Joey and Susan Batson, Daryl and Tori Smith, Todd and Kim Gilstrap, Kendall and Karen Simpson; cousins: Cameron Simpson, Michael Batson, Ben Batson, Grayson Smith, Gavin Smith and his faithful companion, his dog Dabo.

B.J. was predeceased by 2 brothers: Taylor and Hunter Simpson and his maternal grandfather, Billy Joe Batson.

Visitation will be Friday evening, January 4, 2019 from 6 until 8 p.m. at The Howze Mortuary.

Funeral service will be Saturday morning, January 5, 2019 at 11 a.m. at Forestville Baptist Church.

Burial will be at Woodlawn Memorial Park in Greenville.

Memorials may be made to The Travelers Rest Athletic Booster Club – Baseball Team, P.O. Box 698, Travelers Rest, SC 29690 and/or the Tisch Brain Tumor Center, DUMC 3624, Durham, NC 27710 for the Melvin McCall Strokes Fore Progress Charity.

The family will be at the home of his parents.

Online condolences may be expressed to the family at [www.thehowzemortuary.com](http://www.thehowzemortuary.com).

The Howze Mortuary, Travelers Rest is in charge of the arrangements. (864) 834-8051.

# Cemetery Details

## Woodlawn Memorial Park

1 Pine Knoll Dr.  
Greenville, SC

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 4. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

The Howze Mortuary  
6714 State Park Rd./P.O. Box 369  
Travelers Rest, SC

## Church Service

JAN 5. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Forestville Baptist Church  
2 Old McElhaney Rd.  
Greenville, SC

# Tribute Wall

CV

“ Anita and family, I am so terribly sorry for your tremendous loss. No words I give can make this better. Know that you have a whole community lifting your family up in prayer. Much love, Charlene M VanOrsdale

Charlene VanOrsdale - January 05, 2019 at 03:13 PM



“ Starbucks Coffee Condolences was purchased for the family of Billy Joe "B.J." Simpson.



January 05, 2019 at 09:43 AM

HC

“ Harvey Choplin lit a candle in memory of Billy Joe "B.J." Simpson



Harvey Choplin - January 05, 2019 at 09:31 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Billy Joe "B.J." Simpson.



January 04, 2019 at 09:02 AM

KB

“ Anita, Keith, Dylan, Kaelyn, Joyce, Joey, & Tori, I have no words to express how sorry I am that you have to suffer yet another great loss. There is nothing I can say to ease the pain that I know you and your family are feeling. The Lord took our 21 yr old son home 14 years ago. We should never have to bury our children. It's not natural. The most comforting thing I can say is that God's plan is perfect even when we don't understand it or see it. We put our trust in Him to get us through and to cover us with his comfort, strength, and love. We live by faith and find comfort in God's promise of seeing BJ again one day. Until then, we anticipate that day and live for the Lord. I know BJ is having a great time with his grandfather, and his baby brothers. You've gained another guardian angel here on this earth. Your family has been through more than their share it seems but what a powerful testimony y'all have been for our Lord and Savior. I love your family and I'm praying for you all.



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**Kathy Butts** - January 04, 2019 at 02:04 AM



“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Billy Joe "B.J." Simpson.



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January 04, 2019 at 01:38 AM

KB

“ *Kathy Butts lit a candle in memory of Billy Joe "B.J." Simpson*



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**Kathy Butts** - January 04, 2019 at 01:11 AM

DS

“ *JOYCE, SO SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS. PRAYERS FOR COMFORT AND PEACE FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY. DAVID AND NANCY SMITH*

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**David and Nancy Smith** - January 03, 2019 at 11:11 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Billy Joe "B.J." Simpson.*



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January 03, 2019 at 10:08 PM

LS

“ *Our hearts and prayers are with all of the family of this beloved young man. So very sorry for your loss. Love Gregg and Laura Styles*

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**Laura Styles** - January 03, 2019 at 09:47 PM

JT

“ Justin Tate lit a candle in memory of Billy Joe "B.J." Simpson



Justin Tate - January 03, 2019 at 08:39 PM

SS

“ I watched this boy grow into a wonderful Man someone I would have been proud to call my son, Once a year I looked forward to seeing him. I will remember our conversations over the years. god speed and God knows I love you.

sandi schaible - January 03, 2019 at 05:44 PM

DC

“ I am so sorry for your loss! Your family is in my thoughts and prayers! ❤️

Danielle Carpenter - January 03, 2019 at 04:53 PM

MT

“ Keith and family I am so sorry to hear about your son's passing. There are no words I can say that will help your pain. My son entered Heaven 5 years ago. Just know I am praying for all of you and know we will see our boys in Heaven. Keith I use to be the secretary at Slater-Marietta Elementary but retired 13 years ago. My heart hurts for all of you as I know the pain you're going through. God Bless All of You. Mertie Taylor



Mertie Taylor - January 03, 2019 at 01:54 PM

DB

“ Keith, Anita and Family  
We are so very sorry for the pain you are going through in the lost of BJ  
Please know your entire family will be in our thoughts and prayers.  
May you feel the loving arms of Jesus wrapped tightly around you all  
during this most difficult time  
Skipper and Debbie Burns

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**DEBBIE BURNS** - January 03, 2019 at 01:38 PM

TS

“ B.J. made this world a better place. I feel so blessed to have known him. My heartfelt sympathies go out to you, Keith and Anita. I pray you find the strength and faith to endure. Know that you are loved and that B.J.'s memory will live on. He touched so many people's lives,  
Tommy Seigler, Lexington, KY

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**Thomas Seigler** - January 03, 2019 at 01:03 PM



“ Cheeseboard Complete was purchased for the family of Billy Joe "B.J." Simpson.



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January 03, 2019 at 12:43 PM

PG

“ *Joyce and Family,*

*So sorry to hear about B.J. You are in our thoughts and prayers.*



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**Preston and Ann Golightly** - January 03, 2019 at 12:30 PM

SS

“ *Dear Keith, Anita, Dylan, Kaelyn and Simpson Family. There are no words to express the sorrow I feel in my heart over the loss of BJ. He was an amazing young man. He had such a impact on my family from the time he was a little boy, I will always be forever grateful to him for his friendship he had with my family(Ric, Josh and myself). You will always be a part of our lives and will live in our hearts forever. I know that Ric welcomed you into heaven with open arms December 31, 2018. I'm sure he said, "Lets go get that field ready to play ball on". Keith, Anita and Simpson family please know that you all are in my prayers daily. Our hearts hurt with you and we are all here for you. We love you.*  
*Sandy Smith*

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**Sandy Smith** - January 03, 2019 at 12:19 PM

JS

“ *Anita and Keith: We are heart broken for your loss. Love and Prayers for you and your family. Jo & Zeb Singleton*

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**Jo Singleton** - January 03, 2019 at 11:21 AM

VD

“ *Sending prayers for healing during this time.  
I'm sorry for your loss.* ”



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**Vickey Jo Davis** - January 03, 2019 at 05:28 AM

CP

“ *Christina Lynn Parnell lit a candle in memory  
of Billy Joe "B.J." Simpson* ”



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**Christina Lynn Parnell** - January 02, 2019 at 10:46 PM

AG

“ *You're whole family is in our thoughts and prayers at this most  
difficult time. May God provide peace Andrew understanding  
Sincerely  
Peter and Annette Garzone* ”

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**Annette Garzone** - January 02, 2019 at 10:14 PM

PL

“ *Dear Family, Judy and I are praying for all of you during this difficult  
time. I am certain that our precious Lord will touch you with His  
comfort. God bless you all.* ”

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**Pastor Tim and Judy Lee** - January 02, 2019 at 10:13 PM

AA

“ Anita, Keith and Family;  
Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers at this time... I can honestly say that I know what you're going through. There is no greater pain than that of losing a child..  
Love y'all  
Annie and Charlie Anderson

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**Annie Anderson** - January 02, 2019 at 08:57 PM

TH

“ Dear Keith, Anita, Dylan & Kaelyn - Our hearts are completely broken for you all. BJ was an inspiration to so many people and his infectious smile was always present. May the love and mercy of our Lord be bestowed upon you all during this devastating time.

Our love, Mike & Tricia Hartin

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.” Matthew 11:28

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**tricia hartin** - January 02, 2019 at 08:55 PM

DH

“ Keith and Anita, I cannot imagine what you are going through. It broke my heart to hear of BJ's passing. Please know you and the entire family are in our thoughts. I know the love of the Lord, family and friends has surrounded you and will continue to be ever present.

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**David Harrison** - January 02, 2019 at 08:51 PM

TT

“ Tracey @ Scott Tate lit a candle in memory of Billy Joe "B.J." Simpson



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**Tracey @ Scott Tate** - January 02, 2019 at 08:42 PM

TM

“ So very sorry. Prayers for parents, family, friends, and his “baseball brothers”.  
Tony and Susan Mullinax

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**Tony and susan Mullinax** - January 02, 2019 at 08:31 PM

SM

“ My thoughts and prayers are with the family of B.J. May God bless you with comfort and peace. Sylvia H. McAlister

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**Sylvia H. McAlister** - January 02, 2019 at 08:13 PM

ME

“ Anita And Keith, words cannot express how we feel about your lost, my heart hurts so much. Watched him grow up since he was just a little bitty little kid with my son Josh and I have nothing but love and good things to say about him and the whole family I am so sorry and I'm sure God has him wrapped up in his arms. Much love-Millie E

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**Millie Eskew** - January 02, 2019 at 06:41 PM

SC

“ I'm hurting for you and your family here in Simpsonville. May God take away your pain.

*Scott Carpenter*

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**Scott Carpenter** - January 02, 2019 at 05:38 PM

DR

“ Lots of prayers to each of you of the great loss. Don and Nancy Rholetter

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**Don and Nancy Rholetter** - January 02, 2019 at 05:12 PM

TT

“ Tracey & Scott Tate lit a candle in memory of Billy Joe "B.J." Simpson



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**Tracey & Scott Tate** - January 02, 2019 at 05:09 PM

RM

“ So sorry for the loss of B.J. Simpson RIP 🙏

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**Robert McCall** - January 02, 2019 at 04:23 PM

JA

“ JanWeast lit a candle in memory of Billy Joe "B.J." Simpson



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**JanWeast** - January 02, 2019 at 03:54 PM



“ *Ruby Goldsmith lit a candle in memory of Billy Joe "B.J." Simpson*



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**Ruby Goldsmith** - January 02, 2019 at 03:18 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Billy Joe "B.J." Simpson.*



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January 02, 2019 at 03:08 PM



“ *Jamie Dunn lit a candle in memory of Billy Joe "B.J." Simpson*



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**Jamie Dunn** - January 02, 2019 at 03:08 PM



“ *My heart is so broken for each of you. Praying for peace and comfort that only our Lord can provide today and for all the days that follow!*



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**April Williams** - January 02, 2019 at 02:54 PM

DH

“ *Dean Hall lit a candle in memory of Billy Joe "B.J." Simpson*



Dean Hall - January 02, 2019 at 02:48 PM

AG

“ *Anthony And Kristal Galloway lit a candle in memory of Billy Joe "B.J." Simpson*



Anthony and Kristal Galloway - January 02, 2019 at 02:41 PM



“ *The Gravley Family is here loving and praying for you guys! May God bless and be with you during this painful time!*



Brandi Gravley - January 02, 2019 at 02:27 PM

ZB

“ *Zack Brooks lit a candle in memory of Billy Joe "B.J." Simpson*



Zack Brooks - January 02, 2019 at 02:23 PM

David Hall

“ David Hall lit a candle in memory of Billy Joe "B.J." Simpson



David Hall - January 02, 2019 at 02:08 PM

MG

*I am so sorry for your loss. Tori and Daryl praying for you and your families.*

Maureen Gobeil - January 02, 2019 at 03:07 PM

David Hall

“ I went to school with bj Simpson my first year as a freshman he was a senior he was a good person who loved his sports prayers for the family

David Hall - January 02, 2019 at 02:07 PM

DT

“ Thoughts and prayers are with all of you.



Debrah Tran - January 02, 2019 at 02:06 PM

"T

“ *"Strokes Fore Progress" Memorial Golf Tournament purchased the A New Sunrise Spray for the family of Billy Joe "B.J." Simpson.*



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**"Strokes Fore Progress" Memorial Golf Tournament -**  
January 02, 2019 at 01:47 PM

SM

“ *Shawn & Kathy McCall purchased the Treasured Lilies Spray for the family of Billy Joe "B.J." Simpson.*



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**Shawn & Kathy McCall -** January 02, 2019 at 01:37 PM

HJ

“ *To the Simpson family & Batson family .y heart goes out to you all. Our savior will give you strength . I remember BJ running around in florist when we work holidays. Love you .*

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**Huetta Duncan Jackson -** January 02, 2019 at 01:22 PM

TS

“ *Timothy And Diana Stroud lit a candle in memory of Billy Joe "B.J." Simpson*



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**Timothy and Diana Stroud -** January 02, 2019 at 01:03 PM

SC

“ We are so sorry with prayers and thoughts.

Sherry & Gene Cunningham - January 02, 2019 at 11:28 AM

VC

“ To all the family...I am so sorry to hear of B. J.'s passing...Please know that you all are in our prayers...May God comfort you all at this time...

Jackie & Vicki "Cox" Collins

VICKI COLLINS - January 02, 2019 at 11:18 AM

BC

“ Anita and Keith,

*Lonnie and I are so sorry for what you are having to go through now. I can't begin to know how you feel. You never think you will out live your children. I remember us being pregnant at the same time like it was yesterday. Please know Lonnie, Eric, Beth, James and I are thinking and praying for you and Keith as well as the rest of your family.*

*Love,  
Bobbie*

Bobbie Clayton - January 02, 2019 at 10:50 AM

GT

*Spodell AKA KEITH & Anita I have a son BJ.S age and cannot imagine the tremendoros loss that you are suffering. I will pray that Our Gracious Heavenly Father will ease your pain . You and Anita as well as your entire family are in my thoughts & prayers. Love & Prayers Greg & Tammy Thompson*

Greg Thompson - January 04, 2019 at 09:08 AM

TS

*Tom and I are very sorry about BJ. No words can make up for the loss, of a child. You are in our thoughts and prayers  
Tom and Joyce Stanford*

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**The Stanfords** - January 05, 2019 at 07:42 AM

TH

*Anita, Keith , family and Ms Joyce, Tori and Joey/family.  
Upon reading the many articles of the great victory for Clemson I came across an article asking for prayers for the loss of Joey Batson's nephew.*

*It's been since 2001 since we have seen one another .*

*We remember so well the fond memories and often talk about them of your entire family meeting each year during July 4 as we all returned to the same hotel and enjoyed a wonderful week catching up together.*

*We remember BJ so well. So energetic, so full of life, no fear, always polite and always ready to be on the go with his favorite baseball cap! As we found the article that identified it was BJ who passed away we were in complete shock and our hearts are broken for you .*

*We are so sorry that you and your families are having to walk through this journey .*

*We cannot say we understand the pain your hearts are feeling however we can say that our prayers for you will be that you will find comfort in knowing our Heavenly Father will never leave your side.*

*Remembering your family always being close and very supportive this too will bring great comfort.*

*The many memories you have of BJ so full of life are true blessings that will carry you on. To read how he touched so many people's heart at such a young age is incredible and will not be forgotten.*

*Praying for comfort and healing .*

*Love Lauren (30) Tammy and Robbie Hood (Sumter SC)*

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**Tammy Hood** - January 13, 2019 at 01:17 AM