



## John-Marc Parsons

January 27, 1976 - July 20, 2021

John-Marc was born on January 27, 1976, in Philadelphia, PA to James and Rosanettia (Rose) Parsons.

John-Marc was faced with a medical challenge at the very early age of 3 when he was diagnosed with retinoblastoma, a cancer of the eye, which left him with a loss of vision in one eye. Even as a young child he exhibited strength and resilience as he overcame this obstacle set before him.

In 1979, his family moved to the West Coast where John-Marc spent his elementary and middle school years in Long Beach, CA. He developed a love for music as a young boy and learned to play the piano and the violin. His first love was the violin.

His family relocated to Albany, NY in 1990 where he attended Albany High School. He started his undergraduate education in 1996 at the State University of New York at Albany where he became a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

In 1997, John-Marc was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis (MS) and moved to Atlanta, GA in 1999 to continue his education at Georgia State University where he obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in Speech Communication in 2009.

He later entered a master's program at Emory University Candler School of Theology. During his educational pursuit, he battled multiple medical complications of MS. However, despite the many obstacles faced by this disease he managed to complete his Master of Divinity degree in 2016. His dream was to pursue his PhD in Social Ethics with a focus on the role of the church versus the government in caring for the hungry and the impoverished.

His hobbies and interests were reading, contemporary jazz, and photography. He had an infectious smile and a warm personality. John-Marc knew no stranger. He enjoyed the company of his friends. He was kind, caring, and always had a positive outlook on life. No matter the circumstance John-Marc was faced with he would always say, "I can't complain." Most importantly, he loved the Lord. His faith in God's power to heal and restore was unyielding.

Following his latest hospitalization with complications of MS, John-Marc passed from Earth to glory on July 20, 2021. He fought like a true soldier, exemplifying the courage and tenacity to push himself far beyond his physical limitations. Even during his last days on earth, the strength and courage that he epitomized throughout his life was evident as he fought tirelessly to beat this latest illness. In the end, God said to our soldier, John-Marc, "You have fought the good fight, you have finished the race, you have kept the faith. Well done my good and faithful servant."

He is preceded in death by his father James Parsons and his brother Michael Parsons. He leaves to cherish his memory his mother Rose Parsons who he affectionately called, "Queen Rose," his brothers Paul (Marva) Parsons, Sr., Jacob (Latonya) Parsons, Matthew Parsons, Jonathan (Francine) Parsons, his sister Nina (Brian) Haley, his beloved best friend Desiree Hunter, 17 nieces and nephews, and a host of extended family and friends.

[https://www.facebook.com/historicebenezerbaptistchurch/videos/527737138653410/?hc\\_location=ufi](https://www.facebook.com/historicebenezerbaptistchurch/videos/527737138653410/?hc_location=ufi)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 26. 11:00 AM (ET)

Ebenezer Baptist Church  
101 Jackson Street NE  
Atlanta , GA 30312

## Funeral Service

JUL 26. 1:00 PM (ET)

Ebenezer Baptist Church  
101 Jackson Street NE  
Atlanta , GA 30312

# Tribute Wall



“ *John-Marc Parsons*

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October 22, 2023 at 04:48 PM



“ *John-Marc, I will always miss you my friend. Words cannot adequately express my appreciation of your support and friendship while we were students at Candler together. I will never forget the time we spent together.*



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**Keri Crimp** - September 18, 2021 at 03:47 PM

RS

“ To know JM was to know an uplifting spirit in action.

*If you were at our alma mater, you'd at some point have had conversations or shared laughter with the sociable, deeply spiritual, upbeat, jovial, resilient, insightful John-Marc or JM, as those of us close to him called him.*

*He had an unique, magnetic quality with people, where he could draw others in for deep thoughtful conversation.*

*He was vulnerable but carried a quiet strength and even appreciation for his condition, this outlook made others feel comfortable sharing their personal stories with him. He took that seriously and viewed it as an honor as he often counseled others.*

*That passion lead him to his divinity graduate education.*

*He was known to uplift others and he was a light. For 16 years, I witnessed his glowing spirit and I am grateful for his presence and friendship he shared.*

*There's so many fond memories that I can't pick just one, but when I think of him, I think of his laugh and his zest for life in the everyday. I learned so much about having joy, and having gratitude even in the face of adversity and hardship.*

*I'm so deeply saddened by his passing, but he is now in a peaceful paradise.*

*I keep his deeply close best friend/caretaker Rae, his sweet mom Ms. Rose, his family and friends in my prayers. May your fond memories of time shared together be a comfort and blessing.*

*Rest in paradise.*



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**Rish Saini** - August 20, 2021 at 12:02 AM

MF

“ This was my running buddy in HS! We played violin together...he got me my first job at KFC! Always a friend indeed, such a warm and loving spirit! John-Marc you impacted my life for the better!!! Rest In Peace ❤️❤️❤️

Margo Ferrandino - July 27, 2021 at 07:43 PM

JM

“ Such a beautiful spirit!!! Rest well king!

Jaray Mazique - July 27, 2021 at 09:51 AM

TC

“ I am going to miss your smile and your wisdom. Thank you for your years of friendship. Rest in Power, John-Marc!

Tonya Cook  
Georgia State University

Tonya Cook - July 27, 2021 at 09:31 AM



“ Love you Jon-Marc!!!! Rest in Power!!!

Wendy Goff - July 27, 2021 at 06:08 AM



“ Love you John-Marc!!! Enjoyed our time at Georgia State and beyond!!! Rest in Power!!! We still have work to do.

Wendy Goff - July 27, 2021 at 06:07 AM

MK

“ John-Marc was the most positive person I have ever known. He was an inspiration. His strength and kindness in the face of difficulties that the rest of us will never know brought clarity to many of my own challenges. JM became a trusted source of wisdom and advice. His presence brought peace and appreciation for small moments. Whether it was a Thai meal, a laugh, a movie night, or sitting in the sunshine with Rey & JM, the time I spent with him was calming and brought me gratitude to have known him. I feel lucky to have appreciated how special he is during his life. He was a loving and giving spirit who taught me so much. There are so many reasons to love JM. He brought out the best in me and everyone. I will miss him.

Mina Kirk - July 26, 2021 at 03:24 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of John-Marc Parsons.



July 26, 2021 at 12:06 PM

JG

“ To know John Marc is to love him. John Marc fought a good fight and he did it so gracefully, never complaining. I'll always remember his smile. Rest now my John Marc, you have fought a good fight and left your mark on those you met along the way.



June Gilbert - July 25, 2021 at 09:37 PM

KS

“ A beautiful soul has returned to the Creator. I will never forget his smile, kindness and love shown towards me and others, and his positive affirmation: "I won't complain". Welcome home, John Mark. With eternal love, Kim



Kimberly Bass Seaton - July 25, 2021 at 07:04 PM

CS

“ Chef, Nikkie & the entire V staff purchased the A New Sunrise Spray for the family of John-Marc Parsons.



Chef, Nikkie & the entire V staff - July 25, 2021 at 05:02 PM

PH

“ Pat Hall lit a candle in memory of John-Marc Parsons



pat hall - July 25, 2021 at 02:26 PM



“ Rays of Light Spray was purchased for the family of John-Marc Parsons.



July 24, 2021 at 10:40 PM



“ *Divine Light was purchased for the family of John-Marc Parsons.*



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July 24, 2021 at 10:37 PM



“ *John Marc was very dear to all of our hearts. A one of a kind soul who knew how to make you feel special.*



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**Ozioma** - July 24, 2021 at 10:22 PM



*I love that picture. Thank you.*

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**Jonathan David Parsons** - July 25, 2021 at 01:07 PM



“ *John-Marc is a spirit that I will never forget. We met at GSU and such a humble soul. I'm sad and was hoping to never have to write these words.*

*Your spirit lives on and may you rest.*

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**Deborah Conton** - July 24, 2021 at 07:25 PM

SH

“ My heart truly goes out to the family. No matter what, John-Marc has always been positive throughout his battle with MS. I know for sure it was not easy, his presence always seems to radiate joy! We all can learn from that. I truly send my love to the family and wish I can give you all hugs. Love - Shunique

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**Shunique** - July 24, 2021 at 04:56 PM

JP

Thanks Shunique. That means alot.

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**Jonathan David Parsons** - July 25, 2021 at 01:08 PM

KM

“ I have so many fond memories of John-Marc. He use to hang out at our apartment while we were at GSU. I will miss our talks, the nickname of "Queenie" that you gave me and your love of God, friendship and....Chapstick!!! You were never without chapstick. I'm going to miss your beautiful spirit but you are free from it all. I'm glad you have peace but you left us sorrow.

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**Kiersten S. Mathews** - July 24, 2021 at 04:29 PM

CH

Haha! CHAPSTICK 🤔🤔

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**Charlene** - July 27, 2021 at 01:15 PM

JP

“ To the coolest cat ever. I miss you big bro. Love you man.

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**Jonathan David Parsons** - July 24, 2021 at 01:28 PM

TP

“ He used to come in Kell Hall at GSU to get his coffee always had a great conversation with him even if he didn't want coffee .Rest in peace my friends

Tracy Pace - July 24, 2021 at 08:16 AM

MA

“ May you rest in heavenly peace, friend. John Marc was one of the kindest, most resilient people I've ever met and he was a motivation. Sending prayers of peace and comfort to the family during this time.

Melody Austin - July 24, 2021 at 06:47 AM

JP

“ Sending condolences to the family. May God comfort and grant you peace. John-Marc was an inspiration to me and many others. He always had a smile and something positive to say. He would often say, " I can't complain". He was a soldier fighting to the end. He sprinkled his sunshine over the hearts of many at Georgia State University. I will miss laughing and talking with him.

Joyce Presswood

Joyce Presswood - July 23, 2021 at 05:50 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of John-Marc Parsons.



July 23, 2021 at 04:36 PM

GF

“ *Praying for the comfort of my family during this time. Love cousin  
Glenda*

glenda freeman - July 23, 2021 at 03:46 AM

CH

“ *Charlene lit a candle in memory of John-Marc  
Parsons*



Charlene - July 21, 2021 at 11:56 PM

DB

*My conscience too the family from your cousin  
Brace family*

Doreathea Brace - July 23, 2021 at 02:02 AM