



Rolf Smedvig

April 27, 2015

Rolf Smedvig, one of the world's greatest virtuoso trumpeters, has died at age 62. Mr. Smedvig lived in West Stockbridge, MA, with his wife, Kelly, a musician, artist, and teacher, and their four children; Soren, Soffia, Aurora, and Annika. His life was marked by a fierce passion for music and conversation, an abiding appreciation of the Berkshire community, and, above all, a deep, boundless love for his beautiful family. **SERVICES:** A memorial service will be held on Saturday, May 9, at 11 a.m. at Trinity Episcopal Church, located at 88 Walker Street in Lenox, MA. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to a scholarship Fund for Mr. Smedvig's four children: Smedvig Children College Fund, c/o Berkshire Bank, P.O. Box 283, West Stockbridge, MA, 01266.

Tribute Wall

AD

“ Not enough can be said for this titan of a musician. Every month, I come back to the same recording over and over again...that timeless Empire Brass Bach Festival album. There is something magical that happens that transcends time when you get a man who knows his clear purpose in brass music-making, then combines it with the work of another man whose art creating purpose was clearly guided by God alone: Johann Sebastian Bach. I know Rolf and Bach are having marvelous conversations on musical intent, color, and phrasing. I heard Rolf was a demanding colleague of high expectations, and his work paid off with those high expectations. He helped created brilliance of brass art. God bless his family even still today!

Andrew Dodson - December 27, 2025 at 11:27 PM

NM

“ Accomplished trumpeter-Met him once @ Tottle shop on St Botolph St Boston

Nick Mazzocca - April 09, 2025 at 04:08 PM

BC

“ So very sorry to learn of Rolf's passing. My son Jeff played with EBQ for many years. Sympathies and prayers to family and friends.

Bill Curnow - December 03, 2015 at 02:31 PM

VV

“ I own several recordings of Rolf Smedvig as a soloist and as the founder of the Empire Brass. I had the privilege of attending two Empire Brass concerts and met Rolf on both occasions. I have always admired his ability to do phenomenal things on his trumpets. His passion for the instrument was evident in his performances. Every trumpet player that performed with him in the Empire Brass become a better player, This is a great loss for the trumpet world and Rolf will be missed. I hope that his wife and four children retain the great memories they shared with him.

Vance Vargo - December 03, 2015 at 02:31 PM

JS

“ Leave a condolence or a memory.

jodene smedvig - December 03, 2015 at 02:31 PM

JS

“ *Color my brother blue
i dont know how to explain it but suddenly my brothers blue
Color my brother blue
He died
He should be imortalized
but color my brother blue
His blond hair would agree
That blue is the twinkle in his eyes
That look out upon the world now peacefully
so color my brother blue
and look up to the sky to see the color of his eyes
Color my brother blue
And realize he's there
In all that blue
looking with his eyes
Down on you
So color my brother blue*

jodene smedvig - December 03, 2015 at 02:31 PM