



## John Anthony Gibson

September 1, 1940 - June 11, 2020

John Anthony Gibson, age 79, passed away on June 11, 2020 in the presence of loved ones. He was born in Newark, New Jersey on September 1, 1940 to Seth and Minerva Gibson. He lived his early childhood on Lake Maracaibo, Venezuela where his father was employed by Standard Oil of New Jersey. At the age of seven he moved to St Augustine, Florida with his family where he primarily resided for the next 70 years. He was a graduate of St. Augustine High School and attended The University of Florida before joining the National Guard.

For over thirty years John enjoyed a career working in the motor carrier (trucking) industry managing various aspects of the industry from operations to regulatory law. He was an advocate for his employees and was highly thought of in the workplace. He was a supporter of Human Rights Watch, ACLU, The Southern Poverty Law Center, Doctors Without Borders, Reporters Without Borders and Amnesty International.

He was married to Marvelyn Pacetti Gibson for 22 years. They raised three daughters of which he said that he was always very grateful to have in his life. He was later married to Nell Smith Gibson and his family grew to include two step-sons, of whom he was also very proud.

John was a voracious reader and enjoyed books on theories of quantum

physics, economics, climate change and the great works of William Shakespeare. He was a non-judgemental, independent thinker with a good sense of humor. He cared little for material possessions and just liked to have a fresh pot of coffee, a good book, and a few Bic mechanical pencils by his side.

In the most recent decades, he enjoyed traveling by train across America and Canada, enjoying the landscape, having wine and a meal in the dining car, and stopping over in various cities while also visiting his daughters, grandchildren, and niece.

He is survived by his daughters, Melissa (Ashley Carter) Gibson of St. Augustine, FL; Allison Severns (Ryan) of Belmont, NC; and Erin Bryers (Micah) of Belgrade, MT, four grandchildren, Drayton and Cormac Severns and Liam and Marah Bryers, and sister Jo O'Connell of St. Augustine, FL. He is preceded in death by brothers Robert and Gerald Gibson.

John takes his next journey on the infinite rails into the quantum world and he will be dearly missed. Per his wishes a memorial service will not be held.

"Life is too short to be taken seriously" - Oscar Wilde

"I had a pretty good ride. Thank you" - John Gibson

In lieu of flowers please consider donating to Community Hospice and Palliative Care. St. Johns Family Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

# Tribute Wall



“ *St. Johns Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of John Anthony Gibson*



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**St. Johns Family Funeral Home** - June 17, 2020 at 11:02 AM

ME

*Thank you for the gift of life and adventures, Dad. I will never ever forget you, and I'll be remembering and laughing at your funny comments for all the rest of the days of my life. ❤️*

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**Melissa** - June 19, 2020 at 03:55 PM

BT

*We had the privilege of having John in our lives when our children were little. What a great dad, husband and neighbor. John will be missed. May he rest in peace knowing his family loved him so much. God bless you all,  
The Topham family in Oregon*

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**Barb Topham** - October 24, 2020 at 01:13 AM

LC

“ I knew John when we attended Stl. Johns River Jr. College. We dated and he was a very kind man who I cared for while we were in school. I left to go to Washington DC. The next time I saw him was at the St. Augustine Wal-Mart when I went in there to purchase some items since I had moved back to Palatka after being gone for 39 years. I am so sorry to see that he has passed away. I had a vinyl record he gave me of Ella Fitzgerald singing Gershwin songs and I would play it so often the grooves were almost gone. He was a quiet man and very intelligent. May he rest in peace with GOD. Lynda Little Crabill

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**Lynda Crabill** - July 13, 2022 at 11:32 PM

AS

*Lynda, Thank you so much for sharing your memories and kind words. It means a great deal.*

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**Allison G Severns** - June 10, 2025 at 06:22 AM

AL

“ We were fortunate to have you as our dad and we will miss you always❤️

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**Allison** - June 19, 2020 at 03:26 PM



“ 25 files added to the album Life Tributes



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**St. Johns Family Funeral Home** - June 17, 2020 at 11:44 AM