## IN MEMORIAM

In Memoriam: A Chorale After Bruckner was composed in memory of Murray Crewe, former Bass Trombonist with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. Murray was my private trombone teacher at Duquesne University where he maintained a large studio of private trombone students and directed the trombone choir. During my lessons with him and in trombone choir rehearsals, Murray was contagiously positive and encouraging with a sense of humor all his own. He was also an artist of immense depth and sensitivity who daily sought to create and encounter moments of beauty in the world.

Some of my greatest musical memories of Murray are of his leading the trombone choir in playing transcriptions of Bruckner's choral motets. There are obvious parallels between the voice and the trombone, and Murray's artistry combined with Bruckner's profound compositions created a deeply moving experience for me as a young musician. I wrote this piece with those memories in my mind. The sonorities are intentionally vocal, and performance of the piece should be approached in a similarly sustained and expressive style. The first trombone part remains rather high without rest; it may be played by either a tenor or alto trombone depending on player preference.

## IN MEMORIAM A CHORALE AFTER BRUCKNER

for Trombone Trio

**BRIAN PAPPAL** 





