



James F. Brown

August 28, 1935 - August 18, 2013

GREENFIELD – James “Black Jack” Flemon Brown, age 77, of Greenfield, passed away Sunday, August 18, 2013 at his residence. He was born on August 28, 1935 in Monticello, KY as the son of Thomas Abraham and Willie Grace (Hicks) Brown. He married Ada Christeen (Lowe) Brown on January 24, 1956 in Monticello, KY.

James worked at John J. Madden as a furniture maker for 33 years, as well as farming for many years. He was a member of the Chestnut Grove Baptist Church in Kentucky and attended Eden United Methodist Church in Greenfield. He was a member of the AFLCIO Steelworkers Union. James enjoyed spending his free time gardening, fishing, doing mechanic work, listening to music, and playing the guitar.

Surviving him are his wife, Ada Christeen Brown of Greenfield; children, James H. “Bruce” (Janet) Brown of Indianapolis, Arie W. (Thelma) Brown of Sheridan, Angela P. (Hector) Munoz of Sarasota, FL, and Fonda K. (Mark) Sanders of Shelbyville, IL; fifteen grandchildren; twenty-one great-grandchildren; brothers, Gerald Brown of Nicholasville, KY, Jerry Brown of Fairland, IN, Hallas Ray Brown of Monrovia, Roy K. Brown of Indianapolis, and Ricky Lee Brown of Greenfield; sisters, Ruby Cooper, Margie Neal, Luda May Lowe, Bulath Faye Stinson all of Monticello, KY, and Beatrice A. Jenkins of Rock Island, TN. Preceding him in death were his parents and great-grandson, Corey Whitten.

A Celebration of Life Service will be held on Thursday, August 22, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. at Erlewein Mortuary & Crematory with visitation beginning at 4:00 p.m. Pastor Mark Sanders will be officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Eden United Methodist Church, 2122 E. Eden Rd., Greenfield, IN 46140. Friends may share a memory or send a condolence at www.erleweinmortuary.com or email condolences to sympathy@erleweinmortuary.com.

Events

AUG **Celebration of Life Visitation** 04:00PM - 06:00PM

22

Erlewein Mortuary & Crematory - Greenfield

1484 West US Highway 40, Greenfield, IN, US, 46140

AUG **Life Celebration Service** 06:00PM - 07:00PM

22

Erlewein Mortuary & Crematory - Greenfield

1484 West US Highway 40, Greenfield, IN, US, 46140

Comments



“ I saw some of the most beautiful things there in those last days I saw a son playing the guitar for his dad while he lay in bed I heard of a life long sweetheart holding your hand while you slept I heard you told of a beautiful place with flowers I saw some sad things too how our hearts broke to let you go but then I felt a peace to know you were again wild and free no sickness to weigh you down and hold you back from running free... And then there was something I dreamed of too you making your way to those gates and everyone cheering to have you home again all those angels singing just so overjoyed to see your face and I saw you look back in the direction you came as if afraid to leave us but then God whispered we'd be there someday too, and so until the day I see your face again know I love you and you have given me so much by simply being the great person you always were

jennifer brown - August 23, 2013 at 03:56 PM



“ Grandpa meant a lot to a lot of people. We all have our own memories of him. Many years ago when I was younger, me and Lance would spend our summer days at Grandma and Grandpa's house playing in the huge back room. One day we were outside climbing on one of Grandpa's trees and we saw a vine growing up the tree. We thought that it was something bad for the tree so we decided that we would tear it off. Grandpa came out while we were doing it and got really mad at us. We both went home thinking Grandpa didn't want to see us for a while because of what we did. The next day, Grandpa came down to my house and sat outside of our garage staring at the ground. I could tell he was very sad about what he had said to us so I went out and talked to him. It is clear to me now that he was more hurt by what he said than I was for him saying it. That was the one and only time that I have ever seen Grandpa upset in my 27 years of knowing him. Many things were left unsaid between us, but some things don't need to be said. A simple look can say more than words ever could. This world is worse for having lost such a great person. I never say goodbye to people, so instead I'll say what I told you the last time I saw you. I'll see you as soon as I can.

I love you Grandpa,
Joe

Joe Brown - August 23, 2013 at 11:11 AM



“ Tracy Amos lit a candle in memory of James F. Brown



Tracy Amos - August 23, 2013 at 10:43 AM



“ Quintana's lit a candle in memory of James F. Brown



quintana's - August 23, 2013 at 09:36 AM



“ MY CONDOLENES to the family.....just wanted to share my dad Robert Frost is the one who nicknamed him Black Jack.....he was a family friend from way back when.....he will be missed prayers your way....but know he is safe in the Lord's arms now.....

joan middleton Frost - August 21, 2013 at 11:11 PM



“ Joan,

I remember him telling me that one day he had on a black cowboy hat and your dad said, "Well here comes Blackjack Lanza!". Of course your dad always called him Blackjack after that and the name stuck.

Eddy Holtsclaw - August 22, 2013 at 09:25 AM



“ This is true! Dad told the story many times. Robert (Bob) saw dad one day wearing a black hat and yelled out " hey Black Jack" and it stuck from then on. He was very proud of that nickname! I've heard him many times introduce himself as "Black Jack".

wb - August 22, 2013 at 10:05 AM



“ Nancy Brown lit a candle in memory of James F. Brown



Nancy Brown - August 21, 2013 at 08:07 PM



“ Jerry Brown lit a candle in memory of James F. Brown



Jerry Brown - August 21, 2013 at 08:06 PM



“ Dad,
My friend, life advisor. I miss you terribly. One of my fondest memories will always be our last fishing trip together and the events of that day. Although we didn't catch anything worth bragging about I wouldn't trade it for anything except having you back. I asked you the question "all those big fish you have caught in the past, what's your secret"? You said! Don't worry dad your secret is safe with me. Someday I may share it with my grandchildren if that's okay.
You were an awesome dad! Thank you!

Wiley Brown - August 21, 2013 at 02:20 PM



“ Just want to say im so sorry for your loss. Glad he was my uncle. I didn't get to see you all. Mom (Beulah Stinson) misses him terribly. God bless you all. May you find comfort.

carolyn peercey - August 21, 2013 at 04:35 AM



“ Charlie & Rhonda Evans lit a candle in memory of James F. Brown



Charlie & Rhonda Evans - August 21, 2013 at 12:22 AM



“ Ron Brown lit a candle in memory of James F. Brown



Ron Brown - August 20, 2013 at 09:10 PM



“ I have heard the story so often...I used to be embarrassed by it, but now...it is most endearing to me. I was the third child of my dad and mom... the first girl...and I just LOOVED my papa. When I was a little girl, I would stand at the road and ask everyone passing by a question.... I would stand with my dress tucked into my undergarments; neck turned to the side, and ask”do you want to know where my daddy is?” I am told I would say...”I will tell you where he is....he is in the barn” or “he is in the field” So on and so forth....He could not escape me because I loved and followed my daddy. Today, I ask you the same question... do you want to know where my daddy is? Today, I say, he is in heaven... he is with the Lord, and his mother and father whom he so dearly missed. Today, he is running and jumping without pain in his knees and ankles. Today, he is one with God, and I am so happy for him. I will see him again soon, and I’m so happy he guided and loved me in this life’s journey.



Angie (Phyllis) Munoz (Brown) - August 20, 2013 at 09:09 PM



“ James H "Bruce" Brown And Family lit a candle in memory of James F. Brown



James H "Bruce" Brown and Family - August 20, 2013 at 08:14 PM



“ Sylvia & Jerry Cotner lit a candle in memory of James F. Brown



Sylvia & Jerry Cotner - August 20, 2013 at 08:01 PM



“ Christeen and family: We are so sorry to hear of your loss. May your wonderful memories bring you comfort in the days and weeks ahead.

Sylvia and Jerry Cotner - August 20, 2013 at 08:11 PM



“ Susan, Jamie & Kyle Hancock lit a candle in memory of James F. Brown



Susan, Jamie & Kyle Hancock - August 20, 2013 at 05:30 PM



“ Sara Bennett lit a candle in memory of James F. Brown



Sara Bennett - August 20, 2013 at 05:09 PM



“ What can I say with such a heavy heart? I miss you Grandpa. And I love you. It's bittersweet really: I'm happy you are with your parents again, feeling no pain, and sad that you're not here with us anymore.

I am constantly reminded of you and the times we had together. I miss going to the apple orchard and hauling back bushels on top of bushels of all kinds of apples so Grandma can preserve them. I miss the days during the summer that I would spend the days with you, and we would go to McDonald's for lunch and ice cream (the one in Indy in front of Menard's). It felt like we went almost everyday. I remember they had your photo up on their loyal customer wall.

I remember eating black walnuts, visiting you at the steel factory, working in your workshop, watching you install the roof over the garage at the Indy house, and the day you gave me Patches, my old, loyal best friend. I keep thinking about the treasures we would find in the industrial dumpster behind the Indy house (ie the Greek vase I actually thought was from Ancient Greece). I, too, remember the scary mask, only because you chased me through the house with it on that one time.

Naturally, the most notable memories are the ones we created at our 'annual' Cumberland Falls Camper Trip. Between the owl call seminar, the miles of hiking, campfire stories, eating those oh-so-good cheeseburgers at the only-place-to-eat-in-a-100-mile-radius restaurant, and visiting the lodge museum, I can't decide what my favorite part of Cumberland Falls was. Except I do: it was spending time with you and Grandma.

I never understood the story behind why they called you 'Black Jack', but I do understand that I was lucky enough to have you as a Grandfather. If it doesn't go without saying, you will be missed and always loved.

Jessup Lance James Brown

Jeßup Brøwn - August 20, 2013 at 01:33 PM



“ So sorry Jessup, wish that I could be there for you guys and your dad. How is your dad? I'm here if you would like to message or call, would love to hear from you. Take care and God bless. Love you guys.

Donna Back - August 20, 2013 at 04:01 PM



“ That's beautiful, Jessup. Very sweet. You made me smile. :-)

Sara - August 20, 2013 at 05:04 PM



“ I met Black Jack in my late teens. He was immediately cordial to me and treated me as a friend in spite of the 24-year age difference.

I had no male role models growing up, as my father passed away when I was 3-years-old. I was raised along with my sister by my mother. As a result, as strange as it may sound, I didn't really know how to be "one of the guys", so to speak.

Black Jack took me fishing, invited me to eat at his table, shared countless stories with me, shared advice, joked around with me and even asked my opinion on different things from time to time. In short, he made me feel as though I had worth. Over the past 35 years, I have heard Black Jack's words in my head. I've smiled and even laughed out loud at times when remembering bits and pieces of our many conversations. I still use the tools he bought me one Christmas and think of him every single time. I've carried him around with me in life when dealing with people in various situations. Black Jack made a difference in my life. I know I'm not the only one. He lives on through those of us who loved him.

While it's so painful to let you go, I would rather endure that pain than to have you suffer. I know where you've gone and I'll be along directly.

Eddy Holtsclaw - August 20, 2013 at 12:57 PM



“ Eddy, he always liked you and your comics. You always made him smile

Bruce brown - August 21, 2013 at 06:19 PM



“ Jessup Brown lit a candle in memory of James F. Brown



Jessup Brown - August 20, 2013 at 12:52 PM



“ Martha & Joey Neal lit a candle in memory of James F. Brown



Martha & Joey Neal - August 20, 2013 at 05:23 AM



“ I remember Grampa being so excited about how well he had hidden Easter eggs when they lived at the old house when I was a kid. I loved that backyard... so many adventures to be had. I remember sitting outside on the porch with him on the swing. I remember his telling of the fabled scary mask in his bedroom closet. Pictures of Jesus glowing in sunlight. Christmas gifts exchanged and the white tree with purple ornaments. I remember how funny it was to see your cornbread in your glass of milk. I remember feeding chickens and snapping green beans and learning what a bushel is. Being proud that I have a rich heritage flowing through my veins and what it truly means to harvest. Harvest home-growns, and harvest a life truly worth living when you place God and family first. I can say without a doubt you led a life worth living-filled with beauty, love, and curiosity. We will always love you and cherish your memory. I know God has welcomed you home with open arms, and He is proud of the life you have lived. When the time was drawing near, I sat with you and asked you how you felt, if you were scared. You said, "No, I'm looking forward to shaking Jesus' hand and putting my arms around my mom." I can't imagine the peace and joy you are feeling now, to be reunited with those you love most. We love you forever Grampa Black Jack.

Sara Bennett - August 19, 2013 at 11:40 PM



“ Beautiful Sara. I can see him smiling now... :) Love you!

Angie (Phyllis) Munoz - August 23, 2013 at 07:00 PM



“ Our deepest condolence to the families. To our dear friends Angela and Hector Munoz, we had learned what a loving, wise father he was. May the good memories of him bring some comfort to your loss. Jeff and Kathy Huang

Kathy. Huang - August 19, 2013 at 08:56 PM



“ Thank you Kathy and Jeff! You are so thoughtful and caring. Thanks so much!

Angie (Phyllis) Munoz (Brown) - August 20, 2013 at 09:11 PM



“ 4 files added to the album New Album Name



Kay Sanders - August 19, 2013 at 08:52 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with all the family. Sending love and light to all. May he rest in peace.

Hector & Carmen Munoz

Hector & Carmen Munoz - August 19, 2013 at 08:25 PM



“ Dad wasn't a perfect man but he was my dad. He loved life and he loved people. Mostly he loved the Lord and his family. Dad didn't watch TV. He would rather be outside. One of my favorite memories of dad was when the family all went camping and he took us for a ride in a canoe. He knew I was scared of water over my head. His version of the story is that I off-balanced the canoe and turned it over. Here I was just a flapping and flailing my arms knowing I was about to drown!!!! He kept yelling at me, "Kay, just stand up!" Finally, when I listened, the water was just to my knees!! He always got a kick out of telling that story! I miss you Popie! Enjoy Heaven and meet me at the River Jordan when it's my time!



Kay Sanders - August 19, 2013 at 07:37 PM



“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Susan Hancock - August 19, 2013 at 07:16 PM



“ Will miss our visits at Grandpas. You were always telling some story. We will surely miss you.

Susan Hancock - August 19, 2013 at 07:08 PM