



Mr. Henry Brown

August 31, 1922 - April 12, 2020

Henry Hartford Brown, Sr., 97, of Saginaw, Michigan, passed away peacefully at home, with his family at his side, on Easter Sunday, April 12, 2020.

Henry was born on August 31, 1922 in Kildare, Texas, the third oldest of eleven children of the late George Wesley Brown and Mattie Edmond Brown. He grew up well rooted in Methodism, attending the C.M.E. church with his mother and the M.E. Church with his father. He excelled in track and field and basketball at Perfection High School, where he graduated in 1939.

While attending Texas College in Tyler, Texas during World War II, Henry volunteered for the U.S Army Reserve. He was called to active duty in 1943 and served as an artillery gunner in the European Theater, attaining the rank of corporal. Upon his release from active duty in 1945, he returned to Texas College to complete his degree in Biology.

In 1945, while on leave from the Army, Henry traveled to Lincoln, Nebraska where he was introduced to Margaret Concetta Griffin. Later that year he wrote his mother, "I think I am going to ask Mrs. Griffin if I can take care of her daughter for the rest of her life." The couple were married on August 5, 1946, in St. Joseph, Missouri, and lived more than 73 glorious years together. Margaret, the love of Henry's life, preceded him in death in February 2020.

Henry was initiated in 1947 into the Gamma Alpha Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity at Texas College. He became a member of the Iota Chi Lambda Chapter of Saginaw, Michigan. On April 1, 1980, he was recognized as a Life Member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity.

In 1949, Henry and Margaret moved to Saginaw, Michigan. Henry was called back to active duty to serve in the Korean Conflict. Following his honorable discharge from the Army and return to civilian life, he worked for several years as an agent for the United Insurance Company. He later went to work for the City of Saginaw as Housing Manager with the Saginaw Housing Commission, and was subsequently appointed Executive Director of the commission, the first African American to hold that position.

During Henry's stewardship of the Saginaw Housing Commission, four senior high rises were built and one of the first home ownership programs in the state was instituted. As a member of the Executive Committee of the State Chapter of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO), Henry introduced and facilitated training programs that were instrumental in raising the staff professionalism of housing commissions throughout the state. He retired from the City of Saginaw in 1984 after 25 years of dedicated service.

Henry was a life member of the NAACP; volunteered with Big Brothers Big Sisters Amachi program; served on the board of directors of the Visiting Nurse Special Services; and volunteered as a youth mentor.

On moving to Saginaw in 1949 Henry and Margaret united with Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church and remained members there for over 70 years. At Bethel A.M.E., Henry served as a Sunday School superintendent, teacher, class leader and Boy Scout leader; and was a member of the Steward and Trustee Boards, Senior Choir and Usher Board No. 1. He helped to establish

the Bethel A.M.E. Church Federal Credit Union where he served on the Board of Directors and was an active volunteer. He was part of the team that helped secure the property for Bethel A.M.E.'s present worship, office, education and fellowship center.

Henry loved God and his church, and loved to read the bible daily. He took joy in traveling with his wife, in sharing experiences with his family, and in his pastimes of solitaire, dominoes, and b word search puzzles. Though he had a quiet demeanor, he always spoke with clarity and directness. His family and friends admired and appreciated his many and apt expressions of wisdom to live by.

Henry loved to work out in his yard weekly and believed wholeheartedly in keeping a beautiful lawn, which he considered his work of art. His care and pride influenced other homeowners in the neighborhood to beautify and maintain their own yards. It was just one of many ways in which he had a positive impact on his community. He enjoyed cooking and was famous for his French toast.

Henry leaves behind to cherish his memory: his children Henry (Martha) Hartford Brown, Jr., of Beaumont, Texas, Pamela Brown Maloy of Saginaw, and Mark (Dan) Brown of Seattle, Washington; his foster children Curtis (Jovett) W. Hampton of Houston, Texas, and Princella Linzy of Saginaw. He delighted in the grandchildren who now celebrate his life: Darius David Alexander Brown, Sean Michael Brown and Henry Hartford Brown, III, all of Texas; Ryan Brown Maloy of Saginaw; Debria (Nese) Hunter of Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Normetta Hampton, Deon Hampton, Brittany Hampton, Curtis W. Hampton Jr., Conrad Hampton, and Galen Hampton, all of Texas; Deana Linzy Bentley, Johnnie Witherspoon, and Roshell (Terry) Wade, all of Saginaw; and in nine great-grandchildren and three great-great grandchildren.

Henry is survived also by his dear sister, Glendolyn Mitchell of Los Angeles, California; his sister-in-law Dorothy Mae Yates of Menifee, California; his goddaughters Corri Lynn Wofford and Myra Selby; and godson Maurice McAfee; and by a host of nieces and nephews, relatives and friends, including special friends Roberta McGowan, Mable Freeman, The Kapp Family, The Boarden Family, The Anna Williams Family, Sylvia McAfee, Martha Lockhart, Tammie Gillespie, Yvette Wofford, and Dr. Roslyn McQueen; and by special daughters Ann Turpin-Williams and Vicki Kapp-Salinas. He was preceded in death by his wife, parents, son-in-law Ozzie L. Maloy, sisters Era Vae Sanders, Carrie D. Raines, Traverteen Palmore, and Clever D. Brown and brothers Obbie Z. Brown, Aldridge E. Brown, William Brown, Rev. Victor Brown, George W. Brown, Jr.

Henry's family extends special thanks to caregivers Kelli, Sharonda, and ComForCare Home Care; and extra special thanks to Wellspring Lutheran Home Care and Hospice Service, and Dr. Ibtihaj Rajoulh and staff.

Funeral service will take place at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 25, 2020 at Bethel AME Church, 535 Cathay Street, Saginaw, MI 48601. Pastor Dennis Lafoon will officiate with interment in Forest Lawn Cemetery, 3210 S. Washington Ave., Saginaw, MI 48601. Friends may call at the church on Friday from 2:00 until 6:00 p.m.

*****At Evans & Browne's Funeral Home, we value the safety and health of our customers, staff and the general public. Therefore, we will adhere to EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 2020-42 issued by our Governor Gretchen Whitmer, regarding assemblages in the wake of the unprecedented health challenge our state and nation is facing. The Executive Order is as follows: Acting under the Michigan Constitution of 1963 and Michigan law, I order the following: 1.

Beginning on April 10, 2020 at 4:00 pm, and continuing through May 1, 2020 at 5:00 pm, all assemblages of more than 10 people in a single indoor shared space and all events of more than 10 people are prohibited in this state. A single indoor shared space includes but is not limited to a room, hall, cafeteria, auditorium, theater, or gallery. The prohibition on assemblages set forth in this section does not apply to: The prohibition set forth in this section does not abridge protections guaranteed by the state or federal constitution under these emergency circumstances. We do understand that this may pose a challenge to you and your family, but our dedicated staff is here to help guide you towards making the best decisions in memorializing your loved one.*

Cemetery Details

Forest Lawn Cemetery

3210 S. Washington Avenue
Saginaw, MI

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **24**. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Bethel A.M.E. Church
535 Cathay Street
Saginaw, MI 48601

Funeral Service

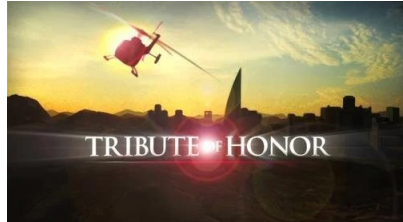
APR **25**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Bethel A.M.E. Church
535 Cathay Street
Saginaw, MI 48601

Tribute Wall



“ *Evans & Browne's Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Browne's Mortuary - April 25, 2020 at 11:25 AM

CP

“ *Chandra Pope lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Chandra Pope - September 29, 2020 at 01:19 AM

SC

“ *To the extended Brown family. May the wings of angels keep you uplifted while you celebrate the life of Mr. Brown, now safely in heaven. Many Moton Drive/21st Street memories include our families.*

Shari Haithco Clarke

Shari Haithco Clarke - May 31, 2020 at 05:41 PM

AK

“ Alfred Kelly lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown



Alfred Kelly - May 09, 2020 at 02:35 PM

TS

“ Traci Stephens sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Henry Brown



Traci Stephens - May 06, 2020 at 08:50 PM

TF

“ We were so sad to hear of your loss. My the Lord wrap his arms around your family during this difficult time. -The Fendia Family

Thomas Fendia - April 28, 2020 at 10:53 AM

WR

“ Wanda Faye Reynolds lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown



Wanda Faye Reynolds - April 27, 2020 at 06:39 PM

WB

“ *Walsezetta Bennett lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Walsezetta Bennett - April 24, 2020 at 04:34 PM

RM

“ *Hank, Pam, Mark, & Ryan, our deepest condolences go out to you. Your family has been our family for as long as we can remember, and you truly lived Exodus 20:12 through the love & honor you exhibited for your parents. We will always celebrate the life and memory of Uncle Henry, as a friend, fraternity brother, and pillar of our community.*

Roberta Stroud & Carl McGowan - April 23, 2020 at 10:35 PM

SS

“ *My deepest condolences to the Family! My Love and Prayers are with you during this time.*
Shelia Spencer



Shelia Spencer - April 23, 2020 at 07:35 PM

JR

“ *Janice Ruffin*



Janice Ruffin - April 23, 2020 at 06:01 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Henry Brown.*



April 23, 2020 at 03:14 PM



“ *Stephanie Ford sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



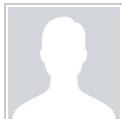
Stephanie Ford - April 23, 2020 at 01:23 PM



“ *Mary Brown sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Mary Brown - April 22, 2020 at 02:19 PM



Peace be with you in this time. God has called his children home. Remembering the quiet manner and the way Uncle Henry had of letting you know he was watching over you. The time spent together is never enough but you shall meet again. Praying for you and your family.

Mary Brown - April 22, 2020 at 02:49 PM

DS

I remember Uncle Henry as a kind, soft spoken, caring person. My mom often told of his encouragement to his brother and her during their early lives together. Uncle Henry will be missed but he will always have a place in my heart.

Saundra Dunn, niece

Dunn Saundra - April 22, 2020 at 03:02 PM

BL

“ *Love leaves memories that death cannot steal. Sending the Brown Family our love, prayers for God's comfort, and deepest sympathy for your loss.*

*Michael & Beatrice Link
Houston, Texas*



Beatrice Link - April 22, 2020 at 11:41 AM

GT

“ *Green River College Human Resources Team purchased the A New Sunrise Spray for the family of Mr. Henry Brown.*



Green River College Human Resources Team - April 22, 2020 at 11:27 AM

DC

“ *David And Rebecca Carter lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



David and Rebecca Carter - April 22, 2020 at 11:22 AM

YT

“ Harun and I send our love and deepest sympathy.
I remember Uncle Henry as a very quiet reflective gentleman with a gentle encouraging smile. I remember all the times he traveled with Aunt Margaret to St Joseph to be with our family in times of loss and am saddened that current conditions prevent us from being physically present to offer comfort and support. I am so grateful that we were able to see him and spend time at the Brown family reunion in Ann Arbor. I pray the family will be comforted by all the loving memories, well wishes of family and friends and the peace and amazing grace of God.
Sincerely and with much love
Yvonne Brown-Turner and Harun Turner



Yvonne Brown Turner - April 22, 2020 at 10:19 AM

LF

“ Larry Polk & Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Henry Brown



Larry Polk & Family - April 22, 2020 at 09:03 AM

MS

“ Praying for the family.

Mrs.Ellen Simon - April 21, 2020 at 09:25 PM

MM

“ *Melleretha Moses-Johnson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Melleretha Moses-Johnson - April 21, 2020 at 08:26 PM

DW

“ *Doretta J Williams sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Doretta J Williams - April 21, 2020 at 12:41 PM

MF

“ *Mrs.Mary Fifer lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Mrs.Mary Fifer - April 21, 2020 at 12:32 PM

SN

“ *Sgt. A. B. Nelson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Sgt. A. B. Nelson - April 21, 2020 at 08:26 AM

SN

“ *Sgt. Hampton,*

My condolences to you and your family on the passing of your father. I pray that God will give you, along with your family, comfort in knowing that he is in a better place. May the God of all peace rest, rule and abide with you all.

Sergeant Abrian B. Nelson

Sgt. A. B. Nelson - April 21, 2020 at 08:25 AM

DC

“ *With Deepest Sympathy to the Brown Family.*



Deborah Coleman - April 20, 2020 at 08:11 PM

GD

“ *Gregory Daniel lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Gregory Daniel - April 20, 2020 at 03:10 PM

RB

“ Our condolences goes to the family. We continue to pray during the lost of your love one.

Love,
Robert and Rosemary Brewer



Rosemary Brewer - April 20, 2020 at 12:11 PM

RM

“ Roberta Stroud Mcgowan lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown



Roberta Stroud Mcgowan - April 20, 2020 at 08:17 AM

TG

“ Tammie Gillespie lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown



tammie gillespie - April 19, 2020 at 01:59 PM

JR

“ Janette Robinsom lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown



Janette Robinsom - April 18, 2020 at 10:53 PM

JR

I will miss Mr. Brown, we had many laughs together working in Bethel AME Church Credit Union. He touched many lives in our city. God Bless the Family.

Janette Robinsom - April 18, 2020 at 10:57 PM

TT

“ *Tierra Tivis lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Tierra Tivis - April 17, 2020 at 11:38 PM

JS

“ *My heart is with you soror Pam, Hank & Mark. Faye just told me. Together Again! Lord Jesus. Prayers are sent up for you guys.*



Joyce Stanley - April 17, 2020 at 09:32 PM



“ *Our sincere condolences are extended to the family of Mr. Henry Brown, neighbor and lifelong friend. The Fentress and Nash families.*



Cheryl Fentress-Nash - April 17, 2020 at 04:17 PM

DJ

“ *Dallas And Barbara Jones lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Dallas and Barbara Jones - April 17, 2020 at 02:57 PM

CW

“ *Carol Walker lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Carol Walker - April 17, 2020 at 01:57 PM

SS

“ *Shelva Scott-Veal lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Shelva Scott-Veal - April 17, 2020 at 10:46 AM

PM

“ *Pamela Monroe lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Pamela Monroe - April 17, 2020 at 10:19 AM

SM

“ *Sam And Deborah Mack lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Sam and Deborah Mack - April 17, 2020 at 01:00 AM

RW

“ *Rodney And Barb Walker lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Rodney and Barb Walker - April 16, 2020 at 07:29 PM



“ *Yvette Wofford lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Yvette Wofford - April 15, 2020 at 09:52 PM

BK

“ *Bea King lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Bea King - April 15, 2020 at 09:50 PM

EH

“ *Elbert & Carolyn Hunter lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Elbert & Carolyn Hunter - April 15, 2020 at 07:48 PM

TF

“ *Mr Brown was over TheSaginaw Housing Projects when I was a child we called him Project Brown. Very nice person The Anderso Family*



The Anderson Family 2108 Farewell#2 - April 15, 2020 at 06:31 PM

BC

“ *Billy And Karen Cork lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Billy and Karen Cork - April 15, 2020 at 04:38 PM

JF

“ *Jerry Rance And Family. lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Jerry Rance and family. - April 15, 2020 at 02:21 PM

MJ

“ Marie Hinton Jones sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Henry Brown



Marie Hinton Jones - April 15, 2020 at 12:59 PM

AZ

“ Albert&Frances Zackrie sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Henry Brown



Albert&Frances Zackrie - April 15, 2020 at 05:47 AM

DH

“ D. Hunter lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown



D. Hunter - April 14, 2020 at 08:17 PM

DM

“ Derrell Martin lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown



Derrell Martin - April 14, 2020 at 07:00 PM

BM

“ *Bernice McGlothlin lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Bernice McGlothlin - April 14, 2020 at 06:42 PM

LA

“ *Leopold/Janel Arnett sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Leopold/Janel Arnett - April 14, 2020 at 04:30 PM

DK

“ *Dec. Bobby &Thelma Kelley lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Dec. Bobby &Thelma Kelley - April 14, 2020 at 03:14 PM

KR

“ *KEVIN RICHARD lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



KEVIN RICHARD - April 14, 2020 at 02:53 PM

RW

“ Rhonda Warren lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown



Rhonda Warren - April 14, 2020 at 02:25 PM

DM

“ Deborah Mack lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown



Deborah Mack - April 14, 2020 at 01:05 PM

VM

“ Veronica McClain lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown



Veronica McClain - April 14, 2020 at 11:59 AM

FD

“ Sending My Deepest Condolences to the Family/Friends.



Fazilet Beemon Drake - April 14, 2020 at 11:44 AM

BK

“ *Betty King lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Betty King - April 14, 2020 at 11:23 AM



“ *Otis W Jackson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Otis W Jackson - April 14, 2020 at 10:06 AM



“ *Frank Johnson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Frank Johnson - April 14, 2020 at 01:59 AM

AM

“ *Audrey McKandes lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Audrey McKandes - April 13, 2020 at 10:44 PM

CJ

“ Carrie Jackson-Zackrie lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown



Carrie Jackson-Zackrie - April 13, 2020 at 09:45 PM

DM

“ Sincere Condolences and love to the Brown family.



Deborah Morris-Willians - April 13, 2020 at 09:09 PM

CW

“ Calvin And Delores Williams lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown



Calvin and Delores Williams - April 13, 2020 at 07:33 PM

PM

“ Pamela Monroe lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown



Pamela Monroe - April 13, 2020 at 06:19 PM

AV

“ *Al And Brenda Vinson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Al and Brenda Vinson - April 13, 2020 at 02:35 PM

BJ

“ *Rest in peace*



Brenda Jones - April 13, 2020 at 12:52 PM

JW

“ *Joanie Williams sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Joanie Williams - April 13, 2020 at 12:43 PM

AK

“ *Al Kelly lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Al Kelly - April 13, 2020 at 12:28 PM

BB

“ *Belinda Barlow-Poole lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Belinda Barlow-Poole - April 13, 2020 at 12:14 PM

GB

“ *Gwen White Bowman lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Gwen White Bowman - April 13, 2020 at 12:13 PM

JC

“ *Judge Terry L. Clark lit a candle in memory of Mr. Henry Brown*



Judge Terry L. Clark - April 13, 2020 at 11:02 AM