



James E. Brown

January 7, 1939 - December 28, 2022

RIGA - James Elwood Brown of Riga, MI passed away on the morning of December 28th after a brief illness at the age of 83.

James was born on January 7, 1939, in Bath, Maine to Henry Everett Brown and Minnie Bertha Pitcher. He was raised by his mother, along with his foster parents, Afton Farrin Jr. and Phoebe Farrin, in South Bristol, Maine where he helped with the Farrin's Lobster Fishing business, and on Farrin's Chicken Farm.

James joined the Navy and served 4 years. While in the Navy his ship USS John W. Weeks (DD-701) docked in Toledo, Ohio, where he met the love of his life and future wife, Emma Roller, and married her May 1, 1960, in Damariscotta, Maine. They settled in Toledo, OH to start their family which includes 11 children.

After various occupations, in 1965 he settled on construction and started Brown & Son's Roofing & Siding Company which will continue his legacy. He served in The Ohio Air National Guard as a photographer for 11 years. In 1982 he moved the family to a farm in Blissfield, MI and his business to Adrian, MI. James was a busy man and enjoyed many hobbies throughout his life including learning to play the piano, cake decorating, gardening, and

hunting. He loved living on his farm and enjoyed the wide-open space for his passion of flying RC planes which he had scratch built himself. He also enjoyed glider flying and ham radio for many years. He also belonged to many clubs, Bits & Pieces Flying Club, Civil Air Patrol, The DAV in Adrian, and VFW Post 10192 Blissfield where he served as Commander and helped out with parades, and other services to Veterans. When he retired, he loved spending most every summer in Maine, reconnecting and spending time with his New England family members. Anyone who met James met a friend. His generosity and kindness towards all will be sorely missed.

He is survived by his wife Emma, as well as his children: James K. (Marlene) Brown of Bradford, OH, John E. Brown (Janine) of Blissfield, Joseph P. Brown (Kathleen) of Adrian, Audrey J. Brown of Blissfield, Jeffrey A. Brown (Monique) of Tecumseh, Jerome M. Brown (Anne) of Riga, Andrea J. Vogel (John) of Riga, Jered H. Brown (Casandra) of Blissfield, Joshua C. Brown (Bobbi) of Clayton, Abigail J. Brown of Adrian, Justin D. Brown (Katrina) of Adrian, 26 grandchildren, 6 great grandchildren, his brother, Donald Grover, his sister, Rosemarie Reynolds Has (Fred) of Taunton, MA, brother-in-law, John A. Roller (Barb) of Perrysburg, OH, and his nephew whom he helped raise, John Skala of West Unity, OH.

He was preceded in death by his parents, and his sisters, Barbara Gammage and Dorothy Carleson.

Visitation will take place Wednesday, January 4, 2023, from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m., at Wagley Funeral Home, Tagsold Chapel in Blissfield. Private burial will be in Riga Cemetery.

Contributions in memory of James are suggested to the DAV. Online condolences and memories may be shared at www.WagleyFuneralHomes.com.

Cemetery Details

Riga Cemetery

Cemetery Road
Riga, MI

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 4. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Wagley Funeral Home Tagsold Chapel (Blissfield)
301 S. Lane St.
Blissfield, MI 49228
(517) 486-2133
info@wagleyfuneralhome.com
<https://www.WagleyFuneralHome.com>

Visitation

JAN 4. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wagley Funeral Home Tagsold Chapel (Blissfield)
301 S. Lane St.
Blissfield, MI 49228
(517) 486-2133
info@wagleyfuneralhome.com
<https://www.WagleyFuneralHome.com>

Tribute Wall



“ James E. Brown

January 28, 2023 at 12:24 PM



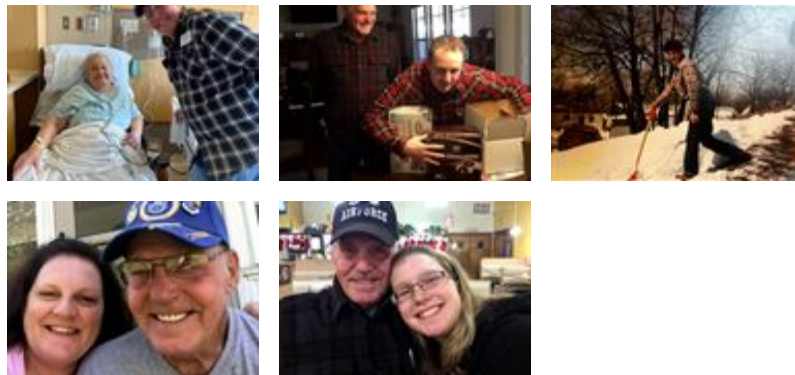
“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of James E. Brown.



January 04, 2023 at 09:13 AM



“ 170 files added to the album LifeTributes



Wagley Funeral Home - January 04, 2023 at 08:54 AM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of James E. Brown.*



January 04, 2023 at 07:45 AM



“ *Fairest of All was purchased for the family of James E. Brown.*



January 03, 2023 at 06:52 PM



“ *I Just met James a few years ago and interested in his activities, especially at Lenawee airport and his interest in radio controlled planes and gliders. Sad loss here but heaven's gain and very honored to attend his graveside committal with family 🙏*

Syd Doyle - January 03, 2023 at 04:41 PM



“ *Love Samantha & Family purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of James E. Brown.*



Love Samantha & Family - January 02, 2023 at 08:19 PM

RR

“ I remember my brother from when I was a child,we had reconnected a few months ago, and I was so happy, I have gotten to know Jeff,Joe and John, I am saddened that we didn't get to physically reunite, may he rest in peace knowing that his children will carry on his legacy, and know that I will Love and miss him . Rose Marie (Brown) Reynolds

Rose Marie Reynolds - December 31, 2022 at 12:44 PM

JF

“ John and Barb Roller and Family purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of James E. Brown.



John and Barb Roller and Family - December 31, 2022 at 09:06 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of James E. Brown.



December 30, 2022 at 04:32 PM

AV

“ Andrea Vogel purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of James E. Brown.



Andrea Vogel - December 30, 2022 at 01:19 PM



“ *So sorry to the Brown Family for the loss of Jim. From Ralph and Penny Priest*

Penny Priest - December 30, 2022 at 10:35 AM