



## Mr. Cleophus Brown

November 27, 1947 - October 5, 2024

Mr. Cleophus Brown, 76, of Toledo, Ohio, passed away peacefully at home Saturday, October 5, 2024. A prominent figure of the greater Toledo area and loved by so many, Mr. Brown took pride in supporting his community, always doing the right thing, working hard, and having a good time. He was an avid fisherman, bowler, car racer, citizens band radio broadcaster, board game player, gardener, cook, and jokester.

Mr. Brown was born November 27, 1947, in Brickeys, Arkansas to the union of Mr. and Mrs. James R. and Evelyn Brown. He was one of 11 children. In 1949 the Brown family moved to Toledo, OH, and helped establish the Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church, where he has been a member ever since. Mr. Brown was a 1965 graduate of Irving E. Macomber Vocational High School and had close ties to Jesup W. Scott High School. After graduating he served his country in the U. S. Army. In 1968 he graduated from the University of Toledo, later graduating from the Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science in 1970.

From a young age, Mr. Brown knew that he wanted to be a Funeral Director and Embalmer. Before that dream would come true, he would work multiple jobs. After graduating high school, Mr. Brown worked for the Sun Oil Refinery until a injury at work led to him furthering his education at the University of Toledo. Upon his graduation from mortuary school, Mr. Brown would serve his

apprenticeship under the late Mr. Jack Dale at Dale Funeral Home. He would then go and work for T.A.R.T.A. as a Bus Driver to obtain health benefits for his family, while also working on opening his own funeral home. In 1980, the seeds he planted bloomed, and Mr. Brown and his dedicated and loving wife, Mary Ann Brown, opened The C. Brown Funeral Home, Inc. Mr. Brown would work together with his wife, son, grandsons, father, and brothers, truly establishing a family owned and generational business. With the help of family and friends, Mr. Brown and his funeral home served the black community with excellence for 44 years before retiring and closing in 2024.

Mr. Brown was a proud member of many organizations, including but not limited to, the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Amazon Lodge #4, St. Matthew Consistory #24 of 33rd Degree, Who's Who, Toledo Chapter of N.A.A.C.P., and more. He also served as President of the Funeral Directors Association of Northwestern Ohio in the late 1980's.

Mr. Brown was preceded in death by parents, James R. and Evelyn Brown and brothers, Carl L. and Theryn W. Brown and Donell A. Franklin. He is survived by loving wife, Mary Ann Brown; son, Cleophus Brian (Lasonya Ann) Brown; grandsons, Cleophus Brian, II and Kendell Brison Brown; brothers, Alolson (Sherlon), Fred (Joyce), Marshall J., Calvin, and Alvin Brown; sister, Larshall K. (Curtis) Lee, and a host of loving nieces, nephews, cousins, friends, and colleagues.

# Cemetery Details

## Historic Woodlawn Cemetery

1502 West Central Avenue  
Toledo, OH

# Previous Events

## Wake Service

OCT **13**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Jerusalem Baptist Church  
445 Dorr Street  
Toledo, OH 43604

## Ceremonial Rites

OCT **13**. 6:00 PM (ET)

Jerusalem Baptist Church  
445 Dorr Street  
Toledo, OH 43604

## Visitation

OCT **14**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Jerusalem Baptist Church  
445 Dorr Street  
Toledo, OH 43604

## Celebration of Life

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OCT **14**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Jerusalem Baptist Church  
445 Dorr Street  
Toledo, OH 43604

# Tribute Wall

PE

“ To the family of Cleophus Brown: I am so sorry to learn about the death of your beloved family member. Mr. Brown will be dearly missed. It seems that the whole city of Toledo had history with Mr. Brown and I could always tell that he was an individual who was loved by many. I hope your family have peace and strength and comfort from the God of all comfort and tender mercies to help you weather storm that grief brings with losing a loved one. Much love to your family.

Peggi - October 21, 2024 at 12:06 PM

VR

“ Mr c brown you will truly be miss I appreciate everything you done for my family. The Autman



Vickie Autman Ross - October 15, 2024 at 10:15 AM

NA

“ I grew up with Mary ann Ms Brown Cleophus he layed to rest my mother, father and my brother my Condolences to his family. Norma Nunn Ardrey

Norma Nunn Ardrey - October 14, 2024 at 08:10 PM

GH

“ To the Family of C. Brown the most sincere sympathy. Mr. C. Brown like his father before him have comforted and cared for generations of our family. The friendship of his father and my father Oscar Haynes from the the one room schoolhouse in Arkansas contined until they were called to their final rest. Thank you for your service to others. Take your rest now, thy good and faithful servant.



*Gwen Haynes-Burel & Mike Lawler*

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**Gwen Haynes-Burel** - October 14, 2024 at 01:32 PM

ML

“ Mr. Brown provided service for my mom & son he was a great help to me. My deepest condolences to his wife and family during this most difficult time. May he rest in eternal peace.



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**Michelle Lee** - October 14, 2024 at 11:19 AM

SB

“ Love you uncle! Prayers to the family!



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**Scott Brown** - October 14, 2024 at 08:54 AM

IA

“ To the C. Brown Family, the Abercrombie family pays its highest regards to the family. Our family appreciated the care and concern during the deaths of my parents. May God bless you family in his loving care and comfort.

*Respectfully, Ingrid L Abercrombie and family.*

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**Ingrid L Abercrombie** - October 13, 2024 at 08:04 PM

MR

“ C Brown and the entire family have our sincerest condolences. You've serviced , cared and loved on our Riley family for so many , many years I thank you for your protection and you showed when we lost our beloved dad William “ Bro' Riley.

*We love you . Monica Riley and family*



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**Monica Riley** - October 13, 2024 at 09:49 AM

KF

“ Keva Fisher lit a candle in memory of Cleophus Brown



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**Keva Fisher** - October 13, 2024 at 06:56 AM

MR

“ Monica Riley planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Cleophus Brown.

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**Monica Riley** - October 12, 2024 at 11:00 PM

MR

“ *Monica Riley purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mr. Cleophus Brown.*



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**Monica Riley** - October 12, 2024 at 11:00 PM

JS

“ *I have been knowing cleophus since I was a teenager. I met him when he drove for tarta, may god bless his family, in this time of bereavement.*



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**John Stewart** - October 12, 2024 at 05:12 PM

LC

“ *Mr. Brown was a great support to my family in time of need. May God comfort the Brown family*

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**Lillie Cox** - October 12, 2024 at 02:45 PM

FC

“ *From (Rick, Wayman, Nick & Clarence) purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Mr. Cleophus Brown.*



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**From (Rick, Wayman, Nick & Clarence)** - October 12, 2024 at 01:23 PM

CT

“ Charles and Kimberly Turner planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Cleophus Brown.

Charles and Kimberly Turner - October 12, 2024 at 08:35 AM

CT

“ Charles and Kimberly Turner purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Mr. Cleophus Brown.



Charles and Kimberly Turner - October 12, 2024 at 08:35 AM

RR

“ Rolanda Ross lit a candle in memory of Cleophus Brown



Rolanda Ross - October 12, 2024 at 07:50 AM

PD

“ Pastor Marla Daniel lit a candle in memory of Cleophus Brown



Pastor Marla Daniel - October 12, 2024 at 02:40 AM

TD

“ Thank you Mr Brown for everything you did for the Davidson family Jimmy and Debbie. Praying for you Brian and family. Tracy Cole-Davidson



Tracy Davidson - October 11, 2024 at 12:40 PM

BB

Condolence & Prayers to the Entire Brown family. Mr Cleophus will truly be missed. Thank you all so much for the love and care that was shown when my Husband recieved his wings. 🧡💜💛💛💛💛🙏🙏  
Beverly Barnes

Beverly Barnes - October 12, 2024 at 10:50 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mr. Cleophus Brown.



October 11, 2024 at 10:14 AM

RF

“ Rusty and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Cleophus Brown.

Rusty and Family - October 11, 2024 at 10:14 AM

JA

“ *The Neely family is praying for Mr. C. Brown's family during your time of bereavement. Thank you for all the comforting you gave during the years for our family, especially the last services of our patriarch, Mr. Aldean Neely. Mr. Brown will be greatly missed in the Toledo community. May God keep you in His care.*

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**Jamila Aqeela** - October 10, 2024 at 08:49 PM



“ *My brother James Snodgrass, Sr --and Cleophus attended the boys club together when they were growing up -- and their friendship remained for over the years -- he wanted me to tell you that your loved one was a genuine person whose impact on the community was never taken lightly. May he RIH -- and the family find peace in knowing that he was a man to be admired!! James Snodgrass, Sr*

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**Ann Hall** - October 10, 2024 at 04:25 PM

BH

“ *Bishop Marjorie Holt lit a candle in memory of Cleophus Brown*



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**Bishop Marjorie Holt** - October 10, 2024 at 02:11 PM

BH

“ *To the Brown family, May the peace of God rest with you as you mourn the loss of your loved one. We remember his labor of love in our community and we will never forget his love for us. Praying that God strengthens you.*

*Bethesda Christian Center Church, Toledo, Oh., Bishop Marjorie Holt, Ph.D, Sr. Pastor*

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**Bishop Marjorie Holt** - October 10, 2024 at 02:10 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. Cleophus Brown.*



October 10, 2024 at 01:18 PM



“ *Barbara Bab's Brown lit a candle in memory of Cleophus Brown*



**Barbara Bab's Brown** - October 10, 2024 at 12:08 AM



“ *God was in his Garden picking flowers to bring home. Condolences to the family.*

*Rev. Matthew Allen  
San jose California*

**Matthew Allen** - October 09, 2024 at 11:38 PM



“ *May your heart find comfort knowing that your love one is at home with the Lord  
Love Gwendolyn E.March Jones and Family*



**Gwendolyn E.March Jones** - October 09, 2024 at 03:15 PM

AM

“ Dear Brown family my family offers our sympathy and prayers for you. C. as we called him was Masonic brother to my late husband and a friend to rest of the family. He handled my husband's funeral. We loved him and will miss him.

*The Murrys*

*Angeline, Trudy and Junious Murry, III*

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**Angeline Murry** - October 09, 2024 at 07:49 AM

ED

“ Our sincere sympathy goes out to the family of Mr. Cleophus Brown. He will be greatly missed by this community. May God give you strength as you go through this time of bereavement.

*"Fast" Eddie & Barbara Stodghill*

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**Eddie** - October 08, 2024 at 05:22 PM

ST

*My sincere sympathy goes out to the family of Mr. Cleophus Brown. He was a great to my late David N. Taylor and he took care of family after his passing. Rest in peace. Shirley A. Taylor and family*

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**Shirley A. Taylor** - October 09, 2024 at 12:14 PM

JL

*My deepest sympathies to Mary Ann, Brian and the entire Brown Family. I had the pleasure of calling Cleophus a friend and client for 35 years. I always looked forward to meeting with him to discuss business and our common interests. In the dictionary under gentleman there should be a picture of Mr Cleophus Brown. RIP my friend.*

*James "Lucky" Langendorfer  
Retired/ Advance Advertising*

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**James Langendorfer** - October 10, 2024 at 11:20 PM

TF

*To the Brown Family, Praying for healing and comfort knowing that Mr. Brown is at peace.  
Also want to thank C Brown for taking good care of my Family in our deepest hour. From my Grandmother to my Great nephew. The Bryant Family says Thank You, for your caring heart*

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**The Bryant Family** - October 11, 2024 at 05:17 AM

CS

*Hold on to your memories, and let them guide you during this time of sadness.*

*Charlesena Smith and Family .*

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**Charlesena Smith** - October 11, 2024 at 09:28 PM