



Mr. Raiford M. "Shorty" Brown

July 14, 2011

BROWN, Raiford M. "Shorty", 87, of Plant City, died on July 14 from complications following a stroke in February. He was born in Plant City on June 26, 1924, the son of Raiford and Margaret Brown. He attended Plant City schools, graduating with the class of 1943, where he was active in football, basketball and track. He immediately enlisted in the United States Navy. After training in the Navy's Pharmacy School, he served as a hospital corpsman in fleet hospitals, served aboard the USS Tonawanda and spent time in the South Pacific, New Caledonia, and later Okinawa during and after World War II. After his discharge in 1946, he enrolled at the University of Florida where he received his degree in Pharmacy in 1950 and returned to work at Magnolia Pharmacy as a Pharmacist instead of a "soda jerk". He worked at Barwick's Drugs and Henley's Pharmacy in Lakeland before opening his own store, Brown's Prescriptions Center, in 1954. The store became known as Brown-Newsome Prescription Center when he entered into partnership with Joe Newsome. The store closed in 1995 forcing Shorty's retirement. He was an avid Florida Gator fan, attending games both at home and away. He enjoyed fishing, piloting his airplanes, collecting antiques, traveling and ownership of several old cars, especially his beloved 1957 T-Bird. He served as Secretary/ Treasurer of the Plant City Lions Club for several years before becoming a very active Rotarian after joining the Plant City Rotary Club in 1962 and served as President in 1977-78, and had attained 44 years perfect attendance before his stroke. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Liz;

daughter Margaret "Micke" McDonald; grandson Christopher Scott Bonds; granddaughters Jennifer Bonds Howard and her husband Steven, Heather McDonald and her husband Dennis Carroll, Jessica McDonald and her fiancé Andrew May, and Ashley McDonald Showalter and her husband Robert; and great-grandchildren Miles Howard, Mackenzie Howard and Emma Showalter. The family will receive friends on Tuesday, July 19 from 6-8:00 P.M. at Hopewell Funeral Home, 6005 CR 39 S, Plant City; where a Celebration of Life will be held on Wednesday, July 20 at 11:00 A.M. Interment to follow at Oaklawn Cemetery, Plant City. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in memory of Shorty Brown to the Rotary Foundation, Plant City Rotary Club Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 1404, Plant City 33564-1404, a very special project of his, or donations would also be welcomed to the charity of one's choice. Expressions of condolence at www.hopewellfuneral.com.

Cemetery Details

Oaklawn Cemetery

N. Wheeler Road
Plant City, FL

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 19. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Hopewell Funeral Home
6005 County Road 39 South
Plant City, FL 33567
(813) 737-3128
office@hopewellfuneral.com
<http://www.hopewellfuneral.com>

Celebration of Life

JUL 20. 11:00 AM (ET)

Hopewell Funeral Home
6005 County Road 39 South
Plant City, FL 33567
(813) 737-3128
office@hopewellfuneral.com
<http://www.hopewellfuneral.com>

Tribute Wall



“ Hopewell Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Raiford M. "Shorty" Brown



Hopewell Funeral Home - July 14, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PT

“ Having seats right behind Shorty and a parking space near his at the Gator games was the luckiest thing ever! We looked forward to seeing Shorty and Fred and Melissa... and sometimes the beautiful grand-daughters... as much as we loved seeing the Gators play. He is a prime example of the best of the Gator Nation, we are proud to share his alma mater, and he will NEVER be forgotten. We'll look up every week and shout "Go Gators" to you Shorty !!!! Fondly - Phyllis and Chip Tousey - Atlantic Beach

Phyllis and Chip Tousey - July 26, 2011 at 08:17 AM

DB

“ Our family has lost a much beloved member but we're blessed with years of precious memories. He played such an important part in our lives, he and Liz have always been there for us all. He'll be missed by so many, he was a rare person that was able to "spread sunshine" wherever he went. We love you Uncle Shorty.

Diane Brown - July 24, 2011 at 05:53 PM



“ *Shorty Brown: A dear friend for many years. A fraternity brother who shared many happy times with me. Although I live a thousand miles away we kept in touch and visited whenever I got down there. To Liz my deepest sympathy and affection. Warren Baker*

Warren Baker - July 23, 2011 at 09:05 PM

MG

“ *Shorty Brown,*

A man of destiny, A man of Integrity, A mighty man of valor, A man whose mountain was never to big to climb, he proved it in his achievements.

A man whose labor of love has not been forgotten.

Shorty And liz Brown, Gods Secreat Angels expressing Gods mercy and love to the broken and hurting; To all those God placed in their path, always heeding to the call.

He leaves behind a legacy of love to all those they touched.

When I look to the skies, I see you looking down with your sky blue eyes, embracing all those in your life.

You live now and forever in all those here and now.

You finish the race, you are home. Your crown is your prize.

We love you shorty Brown.

Mark A. Garcia - July 21, 2011 at 04:46 PM

MG

“ *Shorty Brown,*

He was a man of many exploits, a might man of valor; A man of destiny, A man of Great accomplishments. A man whose labor of love has not been forgotten.

*Shorty And Liz Brown, Gods Secret angels fulfilling Gods work of mercy and love.
broken and hurting, God placed in their path, always heeding to the call.*

He leaves behind to all those he touched.

When I look to to the skies I see you looking down with those sky blue eyes, embracing all those in your life.

You live now and forever in all those here and now.

You finish the race, your crown is your prize.

We love you shorty.

Mark A. Garcia - July 21, 2011 at 04:37 PM

ED

“ *Jess, We send our love and prayers to you and the family.
Wonderful memories and cherished times together will give you joy,
even on sad days. Love, Pops & Nan Dickey*

Elinor Dickey - July 21, 2011 at 08:43 AM

BD

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Big D - July 19, 2011 at 09:17 PM

NL

“ *Natalia McLain Lavallee lit a candle in memory of Mr. Raiford M. "Shorty" Brown*



Natalia McLain Lavallee - July 19, 2011 at 04:29 PM

DR

“ *I'll miss seeing Shorty's smiling face at Rotary meetings, and functions around the community. He was truly a kind and thoughtful gentleman. Our thoughts and prayers go to Liz and all of his family.*
Bob and Doris Roderick



Doris and Bob Roderick - July 19, 2011 at 10:11 AM

AC

“ Mr. Shorty was a loving and generous man and always had a smile on his face. We always loved going to the drugstore to visit my dad, Mr. Joe, Mr. Shorty and the entire drugstore family. It was there that my family made many life-long friends. Thank you, Mr. Shorty for all the wonderful memories. God Bless your family. Love, Amy Carpenter, Casey and Ben.

Amy Carpenter - July 19, 2011 at 09:57 AM

SS

“ Grandshorty, you were such a smart and witty guy. You always welcomed me right in as part of the family. I can remember visiting you at the pharmacy as a young child and you always give me a sucker and a soda. I actually loved to go up there because the drug store was always fun. You loved your family with an unselfish and generous love that people don't see much of these days. We are all better for having known you. Especially your precious family. Rest peacefully. We love you.
Love,
Stephanie Sherwood

stephanie Sherwood - July 18, 2011 at 11:55 PM

DC

“ We truly have lost a wonderful man. I have only known shorty for a couple of years. i was welcomed into his family and the connection that was made has sincerely touched me. Shorty was like a father figure to me and I will always cherish the many talks we had together.

Big D

Dennis Carroll - July 18, 2011 at 07:26 PM

JM

“ 38 files added to the album Raiford 'Shorty' Brown



Jessica McDonald - July 18, 2011 at 05:23 PM



jessica i am trying to get a hold of scott i lost his number,do you know how i can get in touch with him?

Debi Johnson - July 21, 2014 at 10:43 AM

JB

“ We are so sorry to hear we have lost Shorty Brown. He was a very kind and thoughtful gentleman. He certainly helped our family out many times. He will be missed by all. Jerry and Pat Ballard

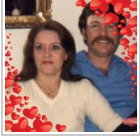


Jerry and Pat Ballard - July 18, 2011 at 02:15 PM

JM

“ I love you more than you could ever know.

Jessica McDonald - July 18, 2011 at 01:58 PM



“ So saddened to hear we have lost Shorty Brown. For many, many years, we were patrons of Mr. Brown's pharmacy. He was a true friend to the people of our community. He was a 'handshake' kind of fellow in many regards. The folks of our area have lost something special. I am sure that he is sleeping in the memory of Jehovah GOD.

Nadine Jackson - July 18, 2011 at 12:39 PM

VG

“ Vonda Gainey lit a candle in memory of Mr. Raiford M. "Shorty" Brown



Vonda Gainey - July 17, 2011 at 05:33 PM

VG

“ What a wonderful man that we will all mis. We appreciate all he did to help others in our community and all over the world. His heart was filled with kindness and love for mankind. Ron and Vonda Gainey



Vonda Gainey - July 17, 2011 at 05:33 PM

SG

“ Susan Greer lit a candle in memory of Mr. Raiford M. "Shorty" Brown



Susan Greer - July 17, 2011 at 04:28 PM

SG

“ Susan Greer lit a candle in memory of Mr. Raiford M. "Shorty" Brown



Susan Greer - July 17, 2011 at 04:27 PM

PB

“ Patti Britt-Walker lit a candle in memory of Mr. Raiford M. "Shorty" Brown



Patti Britt-Walker - July 17, 2011 at 01:30 PM

SK

“ Sally Carson Kimmel sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Raiford M. "Shorty" Brown



Sally Carson Kimmel - July 17, 2011 at 01:27 PM

BW

“ Shorty was a great person and friend. He has been a vital part of the Plant City Rotary Club. I'm really fortunate to have had the chance to know him. He will be missed. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Liz and the rest of the family. Sincerely, Bill Wicker and family

Bill Wicker - July 17, 2011 at 01:27 PM

CC

“ I HAVE KNOWN SHORTY MOST OF MY LIFE. HE WAS ALWAYS A PEOPLE PERSON AND HAD NO ENEMIES. EVERYBODY LOVED HIM AND HE LOVED EVERYBODY. HE ADORED HIS FAMILY AND FRIENDS. TO ME, HE WAS A FRIEND, A BOSS, AND A FELLOW PHARMACIST. OUR PRAYERS AND LOVE GO OUT TO LIZ, MICKE AND THEIR FAMILIES. LOVE, CARL AND MARILYN CARPENTER.

Carl and Marilyn Carpenter - July 17, 2011 at 01:24 PM

VN

“ Vernon Niswanger lit a candle in memory of Mr. Raiford M. "Shorty" Brown



vernon niswanger - July 17, 2011 at 01:09 PM

PB

Always smilin', One that was so loved and will be so missed!

Patti Britt-Walker - July 17, 2011 at 01:29 PM