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In Memory of Larry Gene Brown

SEPTEMBER 21ST 2023 BY DEE LOFLIN

In Memory of Larry Gene Brown

On Tuesday, September 19, 2023, our hearts grew heavy as we said goodbye to a beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, and friend, Larry Gene Brown. Larry passed away peacefully at his home, surrounded by the warmth and love of his family and loved ones. He leaves behind a legacy of love, laughter, and cherished moments that will forever live in our hearts.

Larry's journey began on February 23, 1951, in Flint, Michigan, as the child of Bob and Barbara (Shipman) Brown. He was one of six siblings, all born within the remarkable span of five years. Because Larry was a twin, he later embarked on a family trip back to his birthplace, personally covering the expenses of the multiple birth. This act spoke volumes about his character and the importance he placed on family.

The Brown family was raised on their farm in Frisco, MO, under the loving guidance of Bob and Barbara. Here, Larry and his siblings learned the enduring values of hard work and unwavering loyalty. His Brethren faith sustained him throughout his life. Those who knew him affectionately called him "Smoothie" because of his quick wit and infectious humor, qualities that endeared him to everyone he met.

On May 15, 2008, Larry married Erin Jackson Hampton at the Liberty Hill General Baptist Church in Aid, MO. Together, they built a loving home, sharing the joys and challenges of life. They share five remarkable children: Larrie Ann Brown (Brad) of Lawrence, KS, Tracie Seabaugh (Stan) of Cape Girardeau, MO, Alexandra Diebold (Levi), Conner Tres Hampton, and Gracen Hampton of Dexter, MO. His love and guidance will forever shape their lives.

Larry's love extended to his four brothers: Garry Brown (Carol) of Dexter, MO, Robert Brown (Cindy) of Murray, KY, Ronald Brown (Maureen) of Indialantic, FL, Dennis Brown of Dexter, MO, and his sister, Debra Brown Kelley (Ronnie) of Essex, MO. He treasured family bonds and leaves behind 7 grandchildren, Audrie, Ty, Josiah & Jozy Seabaugh, Ridge Diebold and Betsy & Sarah Smoot and a host of nieces and nephews.

In the tapestry of Larry's life, some of the brightest threads were woven through moments spent with family and friends. He had an infectious passion for making memories, whether through side-by-side rides on his Honda, fun golf games with friends, or spontaneous sing-alongs that echoed with laughter and joy. One could always count on Larry to work hard, yet he was equally prepared to revel in the good times with those he held dear. The highlight of Larry's routine was when he and his friends gathered at the Elk's Lodge for Wild Man Wednesday, for a weekly celebration of camaraderie and merriment with "Smoothie & The Smoothettes", a testament to his vibrant spirit and zest for life.

In closing, we wish to express our deepest and most sincere appreciation to our family and friends for being a part of Larry's journey and for standing with us in this time of sorrow and remembrance. Your unwavering support, love, and kindness have been a source of strength for us all. We also extend our heartfelt gratitude to a part of our family, The Martins, who were ready to go at a moment's notice during the many trips made during Larry's illness. Your steadfastness and commitment meant the world to Larry and our family. In honoring Larry's memory, we are reminded of the importance of community, love, and resilience.

Today, as we gather to bid farewell to Larry Brown, we do so with heavy hearts but also with gratitude for the profound impact he had on our lives. Larry's legacy is one of love, laughter, and a boundless generosity that touched us all. He will be deeply missed, but his memory will continue to brighten our days and warm our hearts. Larry's legacy lives on in each of us, and together, we will continue to carry his light forward. Rest in peace, dear Larry, knowing that you will forever be loved and remembered.

Visitation will be held at Mathis Funeral Home in Dexter on Saturday, September 23, 2023 from 11:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Funeral services will then be conducted in the Mathis Funeral Home Chapel on Saturday, September 23, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. Interment will follow in the Harper Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Dexter Elks Lodge No. 2439, PO Box 353, Dexter MO 63841-0353

Mathis Funeral Home in Dexter is assisting with arrangements.

LAST UPDATED ON SEPTEMBER 21ST 2023 BY DEE LOFLIN

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