



Richard A. Brown

June 11, 1936 - December 31, 2021

Richard A. Brown, 85, of State Highway 10, Caroga Lake passed away on Friday, December 31, 2021, at the St. Johnsville Rehab. & Nursing Center, surrounded by his loving family.

He was born in Albany on June 11, 1936, a son of Sheriff John and Georgianna Hayward Brown and moved to Rockwood as a child. Richard was a 1954 graduate of Johnstown High School and was a lifelong area resident. Mr. Brown was a dedicated police officer for the City of Gloversville for thirty-six years and retired in 1991. He was known fondly as the handsome red-haired cop. He was also a certified electrician.

Richard served in the US Army Reserves and was honorably discharged in 1961.

Mr. Brown was a member of the Gloversville Free Methodist Church for over fifty years and served as a deacon and on the Board of Trustees. He had a personal and committed relationship with God.

Richard was a member of the Masonic Lodge in Johnstown. He was a member and served as president of the Police Benevolent Assoc. in Gloversville. He was also a member of the NRA.

Mr. Brown was a gifted classical pianist. He also enjoyed hiking with his dog, Ranger, and riding his recumbent bicycle, which he handcrafted well before it was popular. Richard used the bicycle for his century (100 mile) rides, which he completed on an annual basis. He also participated in powerlifting and bodybuilding.

Richard married his sweetheart of 54 years, Bonnie Archinal on March 29, 1958. As they shared their lives, their family grew and we all treasured the gift of our parents. Bonnie died on January 9, 2012. Richard then married Carolyn Murray Illsley and they shared the gift of caring and growing older together. In addition to Carolyn, survivors include three beloved daughters, Candace (Dennis) Opalka, Penny (Carl) Rivenburg, and Vanessa (Max) Rulison; two stepchildren, Douglas (Lynn) Illsley and DiAnne (John) Mott; a brother, Ronald “Ronny” (Millie) Brown; eleven treasured grandchildren, Jennifer (Jim) Steele, Alexander (Lauren) Robbins, Sarah (Mike) Forthman, Marci (Tom) Carey, Megan (Eric) Johnson, Andrew (Cassi) Miller, Kyle (Madison) Rivenburg, Jordan Rivenburg (Mike), Sydney Rivenburg (Brandon), Molly Rulison (Tim), and Zachary Rulison; twelve great-grandchildren; and several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Calling hours will be held on Wednesday from 10 am – noon at the Robert M. Halgas Funeral Home, Inc., 111 County Highway 106 (Corner of Route 29 & Black Street), Johnstown followed by a funeral service at noon with Rev. Richard Wilkinson, officiating. In accordance with current health guidelines, facial coverings are required. Burial will be in the spring at the Mayfield Union Rural Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the Fulton County Regional SPCA, in care of the funeral home.

UPDATE:

A graveside service will be held on Wednesday, April 27, 2022 at 10 a.m. at Mayfield Union Rural Cemetery, Mayfield, with Rev. Rich Wilkinson, officiating.

Previous Events

Calling Hours

JAN 5. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Halgas Funeral Home
111 County Highway 106
Johnstown, NY 12095
(518) 883-5323
debbie@halgasfuneralhome.com
<https://www.halgasfuneralhome.com/>

Funeral Service

JAN 5. 12:00 PM (ET)

Halgas Funeral Home
111 County Highway 106
Johnstown, NY 12095
(518) 883-5323
debbie@halgasfuneralhome.com
<https://www.halgasfuneralhome.com/>

Graveside Service

APR 27. 10:00 AM (ET)

Mayfield Union Rural Cemetery
Mayfield, NY 12117

Tribute Wall

DC

“ Condolences on Dicks passing. Had not seen him in years but spent many days and nights on patrol with him. GTrust you will find comfort in many wonderful memories. Bil Crannell

donna crannell - January 05, 2022 at 10:45 AM

CC

“ RIP cousin Dick. A great man with a beautiful family and many talents.

Chip and Mary Carter

Chip Carter - January 03, 2022 at 01:53 PM

CO

Thank you Chip and Mary ❤️

Candace Opalka - January 17, 2022 at 01:23 PM

PR

THank you Chipper and Mary

Penny Rivenburg - April 14, 2022 at 04:57 PM

TC

“ Many of my best childhood memories came from hanging around in the back yard of Richard's place - swimming, volleyball and many dinners with the family as well, who always were so accepting and fun to be around.

*Those are years I will never - ever forget,
Rest in peace my friend....*

Tony Collado

Tony Collado - January 03, 2022 at 09:17 AM

CO

We all love you Tony and the fun we all had on Academy place!

candace opalka - January 03, 2022 at 02:46 PM

PR

Tony, your post brought back great memories and fun, Mom and Dad loved you and having you as part of the family. Hope you are well

Penny Rivenburg - April 14, 2022 at 04:58 PM

DE

“ *Dick,
It was a pleasure and an honor being a member of the old F Troop at GPD with you! God Bless you and hold your family near during this very difficult time. I will never forget you. Rest In Peace!
My condolences to your family.
Dave Edwards*

David Edwards - January 02, 2022 at 09:18 PM

CO

Thank you so much for sharing. Dad really enjoyed those days and you!

candace opalka - January 03, 2022 at 07:07 AM

PR

Dave, Dad sure loved those days and the many stories i have heard about you, John and Dad (FromDad) I found an f-troop pin a couple years back and Dad smiled so big and told me about it. Thanks for your thoughts

Penny Rivenburg - April 14, 2022 at 05:00 PM

JB

“ *RIP Dick.*

Jeffrey blair - January 02, 2022 at 08:02 PM

DV

Condolences to the family of Dick. I was starting out at GPD as he was finishing up. I remember him as a nice man that was strong as a bear but always with a smile on his face. RIP Dick.

Donald VanDeusen - January 03, 2022 at 04:37 PM

PR

THank you for your thoughts, he was wonderful and he would love to hear he was strong as a bear!! :)

Penny Rivenburg - April 14, 2022 at 05:01 PM

BL

“ Rest In Peace Dick. Condolences to family.

Bill Lair - January 02, 2022 at 03:42 PM

CO

Thank you 🙏

candace opalka - January 02, 2022 at 07:19 PM

MJ

“ RIP my friend, thanks for the memories.



Marj Jones - January 01, 2022 at 07:25 PM