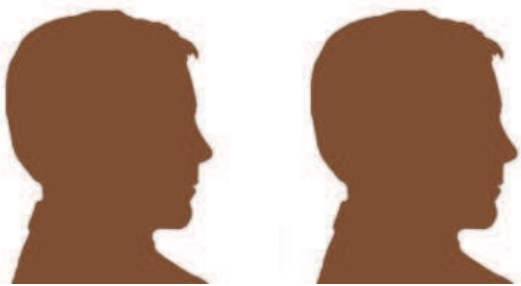


# CHARLES A. BROWN



Charles A. Brown, 82, passed away peacefully on August 25, 2024, in Edison, New Jersey. Born in Chicago to William and Margaret Brown, he lived in Pittsburgh for most of his life before moving to NJ in June. Charlie was a prominent Pittsburgh architect and a devoted man of faith who shared personality traits with the comic character who shares his name. He leaves behind a legacy of dedication, both in his professional life and in his commitment to his community and family.

As he was finishing his Architectural studies at the University of Illinois, he was drafted into the U.S. Army during the Vietnam conflict, and used his drawing skills in a mapping state-side position. After his discharge from service, Charlie married the former Marie Maudlin and worked for the American Baptist Convention, helping congregations site and plan church buildings.

After working for the WTW architectural firm for a number of years, Charlie formed a partnership known as the Brenenberg Brown Group architectural firm. There, he specialized in the design of churches and other nonprofit buildings. His firm's design process was a deliberate and patient process that involved all stakeholders and relevant committees in defining needs and generating ideas. He was a longstanding member of the Pittsburgh Construction Specification Institute, where he was an educator for younger members and served as president. He was passionate about his work, as it brought meaning to his life and he considered it part of his service to the community.

For many years, Charlie was an active member of the First Baptist Church of Crafton, PA, where he was involved in ministry and leadership. He also served the broader community through his involvement with the American Baptists Association of Pittsburgh. His contributions to these organizations were marked by his passion for service and his unwavering faith.

Charlie had a quiet presence, never seeking to be the center of attention or demanding his way, yet his influence was deeply felt by all who knew him. He had a playful, self-deprecating sense of humor that played off his Charlie Brown character and he was universally liked. Despite being thrifty, he was known for his generosity with his time and money.

As a hobby, Charlie worked for years renovating his home. It is hard to remember a time during which part of his home was not under construction and he practiced all trades. He loved jigsaw puzzles and games, and had a passion for computers and technology.

After retirement, he transitioned to becoming a full-time caregiver for his beloved Marie, who suffers from Alzheimer's disease. Charlie and Marie were known for their frequent walks in their neighborhood during the time he cared for her there.

With his own serious health issues mounting, Charlie moved with Marie to NJ under the care of relatives this past June, only to experience additional setbacks. Through it all, he remained the same kind, gregarious person he has always been, charming hospital staff with his humor and soft-spoken manner. He left this life as the same loving soul who cared for others and had deep faith in humanity and his religious convictions throughout his life.

Charlie was predeceased by his parents, his daughter, Heather Brown, in 2010; and his brother, Gorden Brown, in 2024.

He is survived by his loving wife, Marie Brown; his brother, Donald Brown, and brother-in-law, Chris Parsons, of Los Angeles, CA; his sister-in-law, Jean Brown, of Peoria, IL; his son, Alex Brown, and daughter-in-law, Priscilla M. Hockin Brown of Metuchen, NJ; his son-in-law, Craig Hinds; and daughter-in-law, MaryJo Hinds, of Manalapan, NJ; his beloved grandchildren, August, Forest, Rowan, William, Parker and Erica; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins. His family, friends, and colleagues will remember him as a man of humble integrity, abundant kindness, playfulness, and dedication to serving others.

A memorial service will be held to honor Charlie's life and legacy on 11:00 am September 21st, 2024, at the First Baptist Church of Crafton, 1 Oregon Ave, Crafton, PA 15205. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in his memory to the First Baptist Church of Crafton, the American Baptists Association of Pittsburgh, the Alzheimer's Association, or the Lupus Foundation of America.

Charles A. Brown will be deeply missed by all, but his spirit will live on in the hearts of those who knew and loved him.

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