

## Bob Brown

April 11, 1944 - January 26, 2016

Robert Samuel “Bob” Brown, III, age 71, of Nashville and formerly of Springfield, passed away Tuesday, January 26, 2016 at NorthCrest Medical Center. Funeral services will be held Saturday, January 30, 2016 at 2pm in the chapel of the Austin & Bell Funeral Home in Springfield with Kelia Culley officiating. Burial will follow in the Elmwood Cemetery with family and friends serving as pallbearers. Visitation will be held at the funeral home on Saturday from 10am until the hour of service at 2pm.

Mr. Brown was born April 11, 1944 in Springfield to the late Robert and Mary Qualls Brown, Jr. He was an educator for the Robertson County School System, was an accomplished organ and piano player and teacher and was a member of the First Springfield Presbyterian Church.

In addition to his parents Mr. Brown is preceded in death by his sister, Sandra Brown Goad. He is survived by his sister, Josie (Ed) Williamson of Edisto Island, SC and his nephews, Dee (Carol) Goad of Springfield and Rick (Helen) Goad of Beaver Creek, OH.

The family requests memorial contributions be made to the Jo Byrns Schools Music Programs or to the Willow Oak Center for Arts & Learning. All donations may be sent in c/o Austin & Bell.

Austin & Bell Funeral Home in Springfield is in charge of these arrangements.

AUSTIN & BELL FUNERAL HOME-

509 WALNUT STREET, SPRINGFIELD, TN (615) 384-1000

# Cemetery Details

## Elmwood Cemetery

1029 Richard Street  
Springfield, TN 37172

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**JAN 30.** 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Austin & Bell Funeral Home Springfield  
509 Walnut St.  
Springfield, TN 37172  
(615) 384-1000  
<https://austinandbell.com>

## Funeral

**JAN 30.** 2:00 PM (CT)

Austin & Bell Funeral Home Springfield  
509 Walnut St.  
Springfield, TN 37172  
(615) 384-1000  
<https://austinandbell.com>

# Tribute Wall

DP

“ I just learned of his passing. I remember him so well. He was such a great musician. So sorry to learn this. Prayers for the family. I knew everyone from our days at SHS.

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**Donna Leding Plumlee** - March 23, 2020 at 08:35 AM

JS

“ Josie, I am so sorry about your loss. I have many happy memories growing up on Walnut St with your family. Bob and Mother stayed friends for years too. I will always remember him playing the organ for my wedding. He was so talented. Please know we are praying for you. Much love,  
Julie Bigger Smothers

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**Julie Bigger Smothers** - February 01, 2016 at 08:15 PM

CL

“ Bob was a lovely human being with a heart of gold. I didn't know him for that many years but I will cherish his memory always. My love and prayers for the family.

Catherine Laughlin  
Nashville, TN

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**Catherine Laughlin** - February 01, 2016 at 08:11 AM

NR

“ Bob and I were friends and I have many, many memories of our fun in High School. I am so happy that he came to our last Class Reunion!! So sorry I am out of town and was unable to attend the service.

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**naomi riggins** - January 30, 2016 at 04:37 PM

RW

“ I remember Bob always being at the piano at Grandmunie's when I was a little girl. He had this amazing vibe that even a young one like me could pick up on. Bob, may you entertain all in heaven as you did for us and so many others for so long. Rest in peace and love.



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**Rebecca Wilson** - January 30, 2016 at 02:24 PM

SM

“ Stephanie Byrne Murphey lit a candle in memory of Bob Brown



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**Stephanie Byrne Murphey** - January 30, 2016 at 11:18 AM

CB

“ I was so sad to hear of Bob's death. I wish I could be there to celebrate him today. He and my Mama Becky Bentley Gay grew up together and were extremely close. I have fond childhood memories of sitting in my Grandmunie's den watching soap operas with her and Mama and Bob. When I was a tiny child, one of my favorite things to do was sit on the piano bench and watch his hands as he played. Here we are, I'm guessing around 1971? Rest in peace dear Bob. I hope you are playing a concert for Mama and Grandmunie right now.



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**Catherine Burns** - January 30, 2016 at 11:17 AM

HR

“ *Helen (Arms) Rouse lit a candle in memory of Bob Brown*



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**Helen (Arms) Rouse** - January 30, 2016 at 06:52 AM

SL

“ *I am so sorry for your loss. Bob will be greatly missed by those whose lives he touched, including my own. RIP! I think of Bob every Sunday at church when I enjoy the beautiful organ music. I also treasure the time we attended an organ recital together. "Funerals are for the living, to rejoice in the one who has cause this coming together."*  
*- Leonard Bernstein.*  
*My thoughts and prayers are with Bob's family.*  
*Sharon Lassiter*

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**Sharon Lassiter** - January 29, 2016 at 10:08 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Bob Brown.*



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January 29, 2016 at 07:03 PM

JS

“ *I knew Bob a short time, but have fond memories of conversations we had. He will be missed by Nashville AGO. Janet Schmidt, Membership Chair, Nashville American Guild of Organists*

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**Janet R. Schmidt** - January 29, 2016 at 06:28 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Bob Brown.*



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January 29, 2016 at 04:34 PM



“ *I shared many conversations with Bob - usually after an organ concert - and always enjoyed his sense of humor and his wonderful stories. My sympathies to you all.*

*Rhonda Swanson*

*Assistant Organist, First Presbyterian Church - Nashville*

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**Rhonda Swanson** - January 29, 2016 at 04:20 PM



“ *Bob and I were friends for many years. I am sad to know he's gone. My love to his family.*

*Dona McLeskey*

*Nashville, TN*

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**Dona McLeskey** - January 29, 2016 at 08:30 AM



“ *Dianne Arms Eads lit a candle in memory of Bob Brown*



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**Dianne Arms Eads** - January 29, 2016 at 08:08 AM



“ I am saddened to hear of Bob's passing. I shared many hugs and lunchtime chats with Bob who was a friend of mine and many others. I have no doubt he is in a place free from pain and worry, but I will miss seeing and knowing him.



*Janet P*

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**Janet Pierce** - January 29, 2016 at 06:44 AM



“ Was a wonderful teacher. He will be missed. I will remember him always. I hate to hear of all the incredible teachers that have passed thru the years. They will all be remembered in their own special way.

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**Ron Spain** - January 28, 2016 at 09:08 PM



“ Mr. Brown was my favorite teacher, mentor and friend. I will miss him.

*Deborah Bourne Strasser*

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**Deborah Strasser** - January 28, 2016 at 08:02 PM



“ My condolences. Bob was a good friend in times past.

*John Gebhart*

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**John Gebhart** - January 28, 2016 at 04:59 PM

AB

“ So sorry for your loss. I am sending prayers. Angie B.

Angie Ballard - January 28, 2016 at 04:26 PM

CF

“ Bob was a great guy. He will be missed. If he were here today he would say "It Is What It Is!" RIP



Cheryl Ford - January 28, 2016 at 11:59 AM

MO

“ Bob was one of my favorite friends throughout grammar school and high school. I am so glad that he attended our 50 year reunion. Many fond memories. - too many and too funny to mention. He will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

Margaret (Johnson) Olah

Margaret Olah - January 28, 2016 at 09:16 AM

MS

“ It was an honor to have had Bob as a teacher on my staff at Cedar Hill Elementary and later at Jo Byrns School. I admired his great dedication to the children. I remember how he taught manners and respect. He had the students stand when some entered the room and taught sir and ma'am. His musical talent was great. This world has lost a good person.

Marlin Sholar - January 27, 2016 at 09:25 PM



*Thank you, Mr. Sholar, for your exact memory of Mr. Brown. I am sad he is no longer with us but happy that he is free of this world.*

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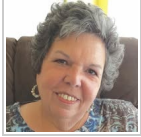
**Karen Rankin** - January 28, 2016 at 04:28 PM



*Mr Brown definitely taught respect. He was an amazing person and teacher. We need more like him today! Thank you Mr Sholar for celebrating him.*

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**Rachel Beane** - January 28, 2016 at 09:58 PM



“ *Bob and I went through Sunday School and MYF together. These were fun times when some of us came early and had church "revival style" in the Annie Glover Classroom. Billy Paul Carneal, Eddie Wolfe, Charlotte and Catherine Edwards and my sister are some that I remember participating in the Holy, shouting and praising the Lord!!!!!!*



*Later Bob and I taught school together at Cedar Hill Elementary and Jo Byrns until he retired and moved to Nashville.*

*I have made several trips to Russellville with him to visit his Aunt Rebecca. He and Alice Qualls had supper together once a week. Bob was kind to the elderly.*

*He played at both of my parents funerals.*

*Bob was a gentleman and taught his class how to have manners.*

*His humor made him fun to be around. I am thankful that he is no longer suffering after his falls, surgeries and stroke.*

*Dee has been an angel seeing to his needs and looking out for his best interest. Bob was blessed to have Dee.*

*Rest in peace Bob and as we have said when you had to use the old pump organ in the Annie Glover Classroom, their will be someone to pump your organ when you get to heaven!!!!!! ;-)*

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**Nancy Lewis** - January 27, 2016 at 08:45 PM

JR

“ There are so many memories beginning with childhood...playing on Sundays at our grandparents home. Josie and I would sneak up to their attic and put on a play for those walking or driving by or sing as I remember. We'd listen to Bob play so beautifully at his house. Always Aunt Peggy would come and our parents and other aunts and uncles and sometimes some from the other sides of the family. On Christmas we would move between homes after our grandparents died and share our "Christmas gift" with one another. And then for us we would go on to the Bentley side of the family in Springfield for the other meal on the holiday.

*I remember Bob and concerts and singing while playing the old piano at our house. He played for our wedding in 1973. Interestingly, he played for my mother's funeral January 30, 1994 at the same Austin Bell chapel in Springfield. We lost touch beginning in 1979 when we moved to Michigan except for the holidays mostly until we moved back to TN to Nashville in 2000....When he moved over we began to have a meal together every 2-3 months and had long talks about life and faith. He worked his whole life to understand more about how to live faithfully and worked through many life challenges along the way. He came to my ordination as a minister in the United Methodist Church in June, 2002 and he and Josie and Bunky came to North Carolina for my sister's 60th birthday also in the Fall of 2002 before she died in April 2003. I'm sorry that my two surgeries and my husband's health kept us from being in touch in person these last months. I treasure the time we had.*

*Someone shared the following quote with me when my sister died and I share it here today for anyone it may touch at this time. It is by Goethe. "I am fully convinced that the soul is indestructible. And that its activity will continue through eternity. It is like the sun, which to our eyes, seems to set in the night, but has in reality gone to diffuse its light elsewhere."*

*Give everyone a hug for us Bob, peace and love brother, Jo Ellen*

*Bentley Reece*

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**Jo Ellen Reece** - January 27, 2016 at 08:12 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Bob Brown.*



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January 27, 2016 at 06:53 PM



“ *Helen R Kennedy lit a candle in memory of Bob Brown*



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**Helen R Kennedy** - January 27, 2016 at 05:33 PM



*Bob was a lovely human being with a heart of gold. I will cherish his memory always. My prayers go out to all the family.*

*Catherine Laughlin  
Nashville TN*

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**Catherine Laughlin** - February 01, 2016 at 08:00 AM