



## Forrest D. Brown

December 3, 1928 - November 6, 2020

Forrest David Brown, 91, also known as “Uncle Forresty”, a lifelong resident of Fort Gibson passed away on Friday, November 6, 2020. Forrest was born on December 3, 1928 to Charles Brown and Edna Spurlock in the family home where he lived until his passing. He grew up a shy and hardworking farmer. In his lifespan Forrest endured the depression, dust bowl and war years that forever affected his values. He attended school at the Brown school which was named for his father’s family.

In April 1954, he was inducted into the United States Army, primarily serving in Germany. Due to his previous experience on the farm, he was one of only a few in his Unit qualified to drive the large transport vehicles. He spoke with pride at being chosen as one of the few men selected to be a member of the Honor Guard for General Patton’s grave. In July 1955, Forrest returned home to help his father on the family farm. For his period of military service, he was awarded the National Defense Service Metal, the Army of Occupation Metal (Germany) and the Good Conduct Medal.

Forresty and his dad raised Hereford cattle and Duroc hogs. Forrest told many stories of transporting cattle in a 1-ton truck with sideboards to his Uncle Joe Brown’s packing house in Tulsa. A very young nephew would often accompany him on these trips. He assisted in maintaining a 3 to 4-acre garden, helping to raise food for his family, while farming hundreds of acres in oats and head feed; he baled thousands of bales of prairie grass, oat straw and alfalfa. Forresty spent most of his life in the saddle of his horse or in the

seat of a tractor or a combine.

Forrest never married but loved the families of his brothers and sisters. The Brown family was a close family, taking care of and sharing with each other. Forrest shared his love of raising cattle with his sister Janie and her children. Teaching them the ins and outs of the cattle industry and helping her establish her own herd and in his later years still offering advice, when asked. He loved all his nieces and nephews, and especially enjoyed taking them for ice cream cones at Macs Drive In, letting them ride on the stock racks of his old farm truck.

When Forresty retired from farming, he loved to visit with the younger guys still driving the tractors and raising the cattle! He had his daily trip to Harps grocery, walking laps in the store, for exercise, then on to Phillips 66, to drink coffee and visit. He developed many friendships there through the years. Forresty's last selfless act as an Organ Donor impacted several recipients by improving their quality of life.

Forresty was preceded in death by his parents, Charles and Edna Spurlock Brown; sisters, Belle Cahoon, Edna Mae Bastianelli, Janie Cook and Helen Castleberry; and his brother, Charles M. Brown.

Those left to cherish his memory are his brother, Dan 'Mickey' Brown and wife Eunice of Fort Gibson; numerous nieces and nephews, along with a host of extended family and many friends.

Funeral services for Forrest will be held 11AM Thursday, November 12, 2020 in the Fort Gibson National Cemetery with Reverend Bill Bailey officiating. Military honors will be observed. Masks are mandatory at cemetery along with social distancing.

Honorary pallbearers will be his nephews; Claude Bastianelli, Donald Cook Jr, David Brown, Kelly Cook, Ray Brown, Tom Cook, Tim Cook, Pat Brown, and Justin Cook.

The family would like to acknowledge all the support provided by both the Veterans' Administration, it's Health Care Staff and Forrest's Home Health Team that supported his wish to remain at home as long as possible.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly request memorial donations to the First Presbyterian Church @ PO Box 1563 Fort Gibson, OK 74434.

The family of Forrest David Brown has entrusted his care, service and burial to Clifford D Garrett Family Funeral Home, Fort Gibson. 918-478-2555.

Online condolences may be left for the family at [clifforddgarrettfamilyfh.com](http://clifforddgarrettfamilyfh.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Fort Gibson National Cemetery

1423 Cemetery Road  
Fort Gibson, OK 74434

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

NOV 12. 11:00 AM (CT)

Fort Gibson National Cemetery  
1423 Cemetery Road  
Fort Gibson, OK 74434

# Tribute Wall



“ *Forrest D. Brown*

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January 29, 2023 at 12:59 PM



“ *2 files added to the tribute wall*



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**Bob Watts** - November 13, 2020 at 09:21 AM

 Dianna  
Vidales

“ *I’m saddened by the thoughts that we won’t be able to fly out to Oklahoma to pay our respects in the veteran National Cemetery where our grandmother Belle, grandfather, and his brother Uncle Charlie are also buried. He was my favorite cowboy and an all around great uncle. He made me cry often with his incessant teasing growing up, but it made me strong, and he always made it up to me with his Southern sayings that would make me laugh. He was a cattleman and served in the army. He was never married and did not have children but he made up for it with us. He took me to livestock auctions and for rides on the mower. He helped me find terrapins (turtles) and take care of fledgeling baby birds. He encouraged me to catch as many fireflies as possible. He always had a few dollars for me to go grab an ice cream cone or firecrackers from the stand down the street. He let me set off all the fireworks my mom wouldn’t let me touch. He would tell me I’m prettier than a speckled pig. He always had time for me and I wish I had been able to give more time to him. It’s hard to imagine his house and chair being empty. Since he lived with my grandma, his sister, my memories with her are also with him. I will forever be grateful for his service to our country and for his humor. We love you Uncle Foresty. Ft Gibson just won’t be the same anymore. I imagine you sitting on that porch swing and thinking about your cattle. RIP*

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**Dianna Vidales** - November 12, 2020 at 12:14 PM

AR

“ For me, coming home to Fort Gibson for holidays or visits always included going to the home my Grandmother shared with Uncle Forresty. There was a particular routine to expect when arriving at their home, which would include Uncle Forresty's enthusiastic welcome and genuine interest in finding out everything I had been up to recently. He would shower my sister and I with compliments, rib us a bit with some teasing, and then get us some ice cream from the freezer or take us to get a treat from Sonic or Braum's. The evenings would include some porch swinging, firefly catching, and me showing off my gymnastics across the lawn or off of the porch to Uncle Forresty's delight. He taught me how to approach, pet, and feed a horse, mark a terrapin with nail polish so I could find it again, and showed me how to hold baby animals gently. For having such a tough and reclusive demeanor, he was gentle and patient.

One surprising thing I learned about Uncle Forresty when I was younger was his willingness to go on adventures. I traveled in his pick up truck multiple times to see my Aunt Key and Uncle Bob for summers in Colorado. While I don't remember all the details of our journey, I remember the feeling of contentedness and of how to appreciate the world around me during those drives.

Uncle Forresty will be greatly missed. Coming back to visit Fort Gibson will never quite feel the same without him hollering at me from his chair or the porch swing. I loved that no matter how old I got, I still felt like a little girl with Uncle Forresty and I am so glad my daughters got a chance to meet him. I love you and hope you are resting peacefully.

Love,

Angela Rusher

(granddaughter of Forrest's sister, Belle)

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Angela Rusher - November 12, 2020 at 12:48 AM

MB

“ *Midge Blue lit a candle in memory of Forrest  
D. Brown*



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**Midge Blue** - November 11, 2020 at 01:21 PM



“ Uncle Forresty was always there for me and our Brown/Spurlock families, able and willing to be of help whenever needed. Being raised on a farm with six siblings and many cousins nearby, he learned early the values of hard work and family devotion. His strong body and work ethic combined with a compassionate spirit instilled by his parents remained with him throughout his long life. I did not recognize the immense impact he had on my life until sharing much more intimate time with him in his oldest years. I discovered within his tough exterior created from long years of farming fields and working cattle, existed the true nature of this quiet and sometimes complicated man. He was, like all of us, "much more than meets the eye." I learned by his stories how he lovingly sacrificed much in choosing to stay and help support his parents on the farm and how that surprised and relieved his father. He shared, often in unimaginable ways, his pride of serving in the Army and deep love of family and friends. He remembered feeling much comfort when reassuring his ill father that he would always take care of his mother. Great joy was expressed when he described teaching how and then trusting in my brother Charles to drive his tractor and working closely with him. I came to understand from my mother, Belle, how Forresty truly desired all our love, time and approval much more than we could have known by his often awkward and solitary ways. He loved without always knowing how to express it, he cared deeply by freely giving of himself and wanted the very best for everyone.

*I will always remember watching him and grandad working the cattle, hogs, garden, fences and fields." Whittling" and chewing tobacco while porch sitting, relentless teasing that included "mountain oysters, very hot peppers, popping my knuckles and always an endearing " You're gonna get a whippin" whenever I saw him. I treasured riding between him and grandad checking, feeding and counting cattle, allowing us kids to ride high upon his pickup sideboards and low on the tailgate dragging our feet on miles of country dirt roads, allowing me to comb his hair and rub his feet while watching old westerns, driving us anywhere and everywhere,*

*hauling cattle to Tulsa and hay to the barn, riding along side of him on his tractor. He surprised me by taking and then buying my first and only pair of cowboy boots. He would also "give" me the dwarf calves and runt piglets to nurture and call my own. He patiently taught Charles, Anne and I how to ride a horse and later surprised us with one of our own at Christmastime.*

*When the time came that he could no longer drive, it became my pleasure driving him around in his pickup to see all the beloved old places and spaces he knew so well. i am thankful for being able to do that for and with him His often admitted "bull headedness" somehow allowed him to endure the many challenges that accompany older age. In my mind I can still see him enjoying his early morning ritual of first driving to Harps grocery, on to the Phillips gas station to drink countless cups of complimentary coffee, then to the Post Office all where he loved being first one there and enjoying seeing friends and town folks On his way back home he would often drive by brother Miceys to visit before finally returning home to settle into his recliner or beloved porch swing comforted with the joy of being at the old homeplace he and his brother Charlie were born.He was grateful that he was able to remain there until the last few weeks of his life. It is my hope Uncle Forresty that you are now resting well knowing you did your best and that was good enough. With love Carolyn*

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**Bob Watts** - November 11, 2020 at 10:06 AM



“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



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**Clifford Garrett** - November 10, 2020 at 05:56 PM



“ 6 files added to the tribute wall



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**Bob Watts** - November 10, 2020 at 04:32 PM

CB

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



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**Claude Bastianelli** - November 10, 2020 at 02:40 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Dianna Vidales** - November 10, 2020 at 01:31 PM

BG

“ So very sorry for the loss of Forest. He was such a wonderful person, he will be greatly missed. We are praying for the family and friends for strength, comfort and healing.

Derek & Brenda Gawf

Chasity Strong

Ft Gibson Barber shop

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**Brenda Gawf** - November 10, 2020 at 09:41 AM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Bob Watts** - November 08, 2020 at 10:28 AM

EB

“ 3 files added to the album Memories Album



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**eunice Brown** - November 08, 2020 at 10:22 AM



“ Jaime Sparks-Simmons lit a candle in memory of Forrest D. Brown



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**Jaime Sparks-Simmons** - November 08, 2020 at 02:24 AM



“ 6 files added to the tribute wall



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**Bob Watts** - November 07, 2020 at 05:15 PM

BT

*Too the Brown family: Sorry to hear about the passing of Forrestie. I think of all the good times daddy & Forrestie ha when they worked together on the farm. My whole family loved Forrestie. I am sorry I can not be at the service but I have a doctor appointment. However you will all be in my thoughts & prayers*

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**Barbara Townsend** - November 12, 2020 at 10:14 AM