



Edward Addison Brown

July 14, 1928 - April 18, 2026

Edward Addison Brown passed away at Trinity Oaks Skilled Nursing on Saturday April 18, 2026 at age 97.

The son of Johnnie Heilig Brown and Dodd Addison Brown, Edward Addison Brown was born July 14, 1928 and raised in Salisbury, NC. Following his graduation from Boyden High School he attended NC State. He left NC State and volunteered to join the United States Air Force. He completed Basic training at Lackland USAF-AFB. He graduated from Office of Special Investigations Training School in Washington, D.C. He was appointed as OSI Special Agent stationed at Langley AFB. He was assigned to OSI-USAFE to Rhein-Main AFB. Later he was stationed at Rabat, Morocco and Nouasseur AFB (Casablanca) Morocco. He served as an OSI Special Agent for over three years overseas in Germany to Morocco.

After returning from his military duty Ed attended and graduated from UNC-Chapel Hill. He was then commissioned an LTJG in the US Naval Reserve Intelligence attached to Norfolk, VA Naval Operating Base. He was Commanding Officer of several Intelligence units in the Norfolk area. He was Reserve Intelligence Area Commander, Area 15, Norfolk, for all area 15 Intelligence units. After 28 years in Naval intelligence, he retired as Captain USN.

While Ed was in the Naval Reserve, he returned to his business career at W.A. Brown & Son, Inc. Ed Retired as CEO and President in 2010, the 100th Anniversary of the family-owned business. His best memories are all of the

wonderful people he worked with over the years.

Ed has also been an active Civic leader. He is a Past President of the Salisbury Rotary Club, Past Board Member for: Salisbury Jaycees, the Chamber of Commerce, Historic Salisbury Foundation, the Salvation Army, Security Bank, Brown Fisher Association, Piedmont Players and was a Trustee Emeritus for Catawba College. He was also a member of the Andrew Jackson Masonic Lodge, Oasis Shrine, Scottish Rite, and Rowan Shrine Club. He received his 75th Year Masonic Award December 11, 2025.

In addition to supporting and attending the local Arts in Salisbury, his favorite activities were traveling, collecting and enjoying Fire apparatus, and visiting mechanical music equipment exhibits. He shared his fire trucks and Calliope with the public through involvement with parades and other local events. The 1914 American LaFrance, he restored with Kenny Spry, has been in the Holiday Caravan Parade since 1975.

Ed is survived by his four children: Brynn and husband Mark Puckett; Paul and wife Melissa Brown; Dodd and wife Rebecca Brown; Marmee and husband John Senior. He has seven grandchildren: Kristina (husband Micah) Deloache, Patrick (wife Kelsey) Brown, Kerry Puckett, Larsson Puckett, Hanna Brown, Ashton Brown, William Senior; and four great-grandchildren: Emily and Elizabeth Deloache, Claire and Madeline Brown.

Ed's family is very appreciative of the care that Trinity Oaks provided for him during his time there. The staff of the Assisted Living and the Skilled Nursing helped to make his years there very enjoyable.

Although Ed lived a very public life in Salisbury, it is the desire of the family that his final journey be an intimate celebration with his immediate family.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests a contribution be made to the Brown Family Fire Protection Technology Endowed Scholarship at Rowan Cabarrus Community College Foundation, PO Box 1595, Salisbury, NC 28145, or in memory of Edward Brown to the North Carolina Transportation Museum Foundation, PO Box 69, Spencer, NC 28159, Attn: Betsy Mowery.

Summersett Funeral Home is serving the Brown family. Online condolences

may be made at www.summersettfuneralhome.com.

Tribute Wall

BW

“ *In Loving Memory of Ed Brown & his father Dodd (W.A.) Brown— & to his daughter Brynn— hope this note reaches your eyes. We once played when you came to visit.*

Now my church worships in your grandfather's house. This is quite a marvelous surprise to me! The home which you stayed in when you came to visit your Grandpa is now the home of my church and a Christian school !!

I lived as a five-year-old boy in the rental home next door— which is now an AirBnB & children's church. So many days went by, playing amongst the magnolia trees with my collie dog & with you & other friends! I'm so thankful to revisit this place in a new context. I welcome your reply.

—Bob Wingate. bob.wingate@gmail.com

Bob Wingate - May 24 at 11:09 AM

JL

“ Please accept my heartfelt condolences during this difficult time. Although my connection to him came through my time with W.A. Brown & Son, what stays with me most is the kindness and stability that flowed from the family he built and the values he carried into the business.

I hope you find comfort in the love that surrounds you and in the many lives your family has touched over the years. You are in my prayers, and I'm wishing you strength, peace, and gentle days ahead.

*With sympathy,
Jackie Leonard*

Jackie Leonard - May 20 at 09:09 PM

DE

“ I've known Ed for decades and always enjoyed time spent with him. We had great discussions about theatre and books and many other things. He was a true gentleman with so many interests and ideas. My sympathies to Paul and the rest of the family. May the angels welcome him to paradise.

Deirdre - April 23 at 12:42 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Edward Addison Brown.



April 23 at 10:20 AM

DP

“ Our hearts and prayers are with your family during this difficult time. What a beautiful tribute to an accomplished man! Mark and Diane Peoples

Diane and Mark Peoples - April 23 at 09:04 AM

PR

“ So sorry to hear about his passing. He was a true "southern gentleman" and great role model for all of us. He was such a great friend to all of us in the fire service. I guess a lot of folks probably don't realize WA Brown, Sr., was the fire chief in Salisbury in 1908 for about 30 years. The story of how the family found that fire truck, that was connected to their family history in a restaurant and acquired it then restored it was amazing.

Paul Rendleman - April 23 at 08:20 AM

DO

“ Paul,
Please accept my sincerest condolences and sympathy for the passing of your Dad. May he rest in peace.
Debbie (Sunding) Ogden 💔

Deborah Ogden - April 22 at 11:49 AM

DM

“ I was so very sorry to learn of Ed's passing. He was a great guy, a very intelligent man with a great sense of humor. I had the honor of knowing him for 50 years during which time we traveled together for business on numerous occasions. Every trip was a chance to learn from him, listen to his stories and laugh at his endless collection of jokes. A few of us lovingly referred to him as EAB or EEEEEB. What a life well lived. Rest in peace old friend, you deserve it.

Dave Morris - April 22 at 07:02 AM

CK

“ *Mr. Ed was one of the finest gentlemen I have ever met. He always greeted you with a warm smile. We are so privileged to have met him at Trinity Oaks. He made the lives of many so much richer 🙏*
Dan & Carolyn Kay

Carolyn Kay - April 21 at 11:52 AM