Gary Alan Brown

December 23, 1960 - August 31, 2025

Gary Alan Brown, age 64 of Hayden, AL took his last breath on Earth and his first breath in heaven on August 31, 2025. He was a dedicated public servant and proud Navy veteran. Gary is preceded in death by his father, Welton Brown and mother, Janet Elsberry.

He is survived by his wife, Wanda Brown of 30 years; four sons, Joshua Brown (Emily) of Arab, AL, Jarrod Brown (Amanda) of Trafford, AL, Christopher Boley of Fort Smith, AR and Shayne Boley (Lizbeth) of Holly Pond, AL; a sister, Linda Creel (Jeff) of Kimberly, AL; a step-dad, Jim Elsberry of Hayden, AL and grandchildren, Olivia, Owen, Sophie, Anna Kate (arriving 10/30/2025), Yadiel and Asher Liam.

Gary honorably served his country in the United States Navy, aboard the aircraft carrier, USS Independence for 5 years. After completing his military service he served as a firefighter for the City of Birmingham for 19 years. He exemplified courage, selflessness, and integrity. Beyond his service he was a family man whose greatest joy was playing with his grandchildren.

A celebration of life will be held on Wednesday, October 1, 2025 at

Gardendale Heritage Funeral Home. Visitation will be from 1-2 pm and service at 2 pm. Gary was a member of Gardendale First Baptist Church. He loved the Lord, his church, his country and his family. He will be deeply missed.

In Lieu of flowers please make any donations to Tunnel to Towers. Any donations are greatly appreciated.

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **1**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Gardendale Heritage Funeral Home
2214 Decatur Highway
Gardendale, AL 35071
(205) 631-8810
gardendalefuneralhome2@gmail.com

Celebration of Life

OCT **1**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Gardendale Heritage Funeral Home
2214 Decatur Highway
Gardendale, AL 35071
(205) 631-8810
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Tribute Wall

70 files added to the album LifeTributes

Gardendale Heritage Funeral Home - September 25, 2025 at 09:57 AM

Veteran Memorial Wooden Flag - Navy was purchased for the family of Gary Alan Brown.

September 15, 2025 at 12:28 PM

ML

Gary was such a good person. He was funny and smart. We didn't talk much and I haven't seen in a good long while but Wanda always kept us updated. It makes me sad for his family but Wow, what a homecoming he had! I truly believe his soul is with the Lord and he has peace now, that he's probably prayed about for years. We cannot know what life holds for everyone, not even ourselves. But, to have the peace that Gary has now, it's to be celebrated. We love you Wanda, you are an amazing person and I know that after a while, you will be okay. Grief never leaves us. You just learn to live with it. Just like you did for me, I extend the same offer, If you need someone to talk to, I'm here.

Mary Leopard - September 12, 2025 at 11:39 AM

WB

Oh Mary. These words are such a comfort. Love and miss you.

Wanda Brown - September 24, 2025 at 09:17 AM

WC

Gary was a wonderful, loving, and caring person. As a child, I was going to go into foster care and Gary and his amazing wife, Wanda, stepped up to the plate and took me in when they didn't have to. I will never forget it and will always be greatful. During this time, I learned more about God and I learned how to do this for myself such as cooking. Gary is missed dearly.

Whitney Chambless - September 08, 2025 at 02:22 PM

WB

Whitney. What a beautiful tribute to Gary. Love you.

Wanda Brown - September 24, 2025 at 09:18 AM

WC

Gary sat in front of us at church for years. He was always very kind and always Happy to be there. He will truly be missed.

Wendi Calvert - September 08, 2025 at 01:09 PM

WB

Wendy. Thank you and we love you. Send me an update on Chad when you can.

Wanda Brown - September 24, 2025 at 09:20 AM