



## Ernest Austin Brown

October 23, 1958 - August 28, 2021

Ernest "Ernie" Austin Brown Jr., 62, of Webster, Florida passed away on August 28, 2021. He was born October 23, 1958 in Savannah, Georgia. Ernie was a faithful member of the First Baptist Church of Bushnell.

He began his career in Law Enforcement in 1979 with the University of Tampa. He has also served for the Bushnell Police Department, Sumter County Sherriff's Office and Florida Marine Patrol. He retired from Florida Department of Transportation and was currently working as a Compliance Officer for Florida Highway Patrol. He was also an Associate at Purcell Chapel of Beyers Funeral Home in Bushnell for many years.

Ernie was a graduate of South Sumter High, class of 1976. He also graduated with a Bachelor of Art in Organizational Management from Warner Southern and holds a Theology Certification from Moody Bible Institute.

He loved to read Christian literature, loved flying as a private pilot, but most of all he loved his family and grandsons.

He is survived by his wife, Joan, of 40 years; one daughter, Laura (Mike) Henderson of Archer, FL; two grandsons, Blake and Kaden Henderson; one sister, Phyllis Varnum (Donnie) of Wildwood, FL; one brother, Richard Brown of Center Hill, FL; nieces, Shayna Decker of Wildwood, FL, and Kaisee Brown

of Valdosta, GA and many other family and friends. He was proceeded in death by his parents Ernest Austin Brown, Sr. and Stillette Brown; four grandparents: Major and Beulah Brown, and also Stillman and Myrtle Smith.

A service will be held on Thursday, September 2, 2021 at 11:00 am at First Baptist Church of Bushnell with visitation from 10-11 with Pastor Doug Watkins and Pastor Brandon Neuman officiating. Interment will follow at Center Hill Cemetery. All arrangements handled by Purcell Funeral Home Chapel in Bushnell, Florida.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the First Baptist Church of Bushnell for the The ROC fund.

Arrangements entrusted to Purcell Chapel of Beyers Funeral Home Bushnell, Florida. Online remembrances may be made at [www.beyersfuneralhome.com](http://www.beyersfuneralhome.com).

# Tribute Wall



“ *Beyers Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Ernest Austin Brown*



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May 13, 2022 at 09:06 PM



“ *Dear Joan, Laura, Phyllis, Richard and Family...we send our heartfelt love and sympathy. Ernie was so very special like a big brother and always reminded me of my brother Lane when I would see him loving on people be it at the funeral home, his church or in community. He will be missed but we will see him again! I am so sorry I was not able to be at his service. Our love and prayers, Lita Nell and Kenny Hart*

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**Lita Hart** - September 03, 2021 at 07:53 AM



“ *Laura and family we are sorry for your loss. Eric and I send love and thoughts your way. We love you. Jennifer and Eric Pope xoxo*

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**Jennifer Pope** - September 02, 2021 at 12:12 PM

PB

“ Bro. Ernie was a good Christian man! He and his wife, Joan, were once a part of our Church at Croom-A-Coochee Baptist Church. We loved having them with us!! Bro. Ernie was a soft spoken man, but it came with tons of knowledge. He was probably one of the smartest men that I've ever met. Bro. Ernie was a licensed airplane ✈️ pilot and had one day invited my Husband, Randy, and I to come to the Leesburg airport and go take a flight with him. I'm not even gonna lie, I was quite nervous, scared, and having anxiety issues to begin with, because all I could remember was growing up under my Dad's preaching and how he'd say, " The Bible says, "Lo, I'll be with you...NOT high up in the. " Although, my day started out worrying, and having anxiety a little bit, it ended up being a wonderful experience!! One that I will NEVER forget, ever!!! I'm so thankful to have known Bro. Ernie! Sis. Joan, Laura and All Family, please except our sincere condolences and know that we love y'all with all our heartes!!

*Pamela and Randy Blackwelder*

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**Pam Blackwelder** - September 01, 2021 at 11:54 PM

EC

“ Captain Brown was my first Captain in law enforcement. He was always kind, welcoming and supportive. I am truly honored to have him share his wisdom with me to guide me in the career. He is truly with the Lord. Sgt. Ed Chittenden Apopka Police Dept.

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**Edwin Chittenden** - August 31, 2021 at 08:20 PM

KC

“ Many good times spent with "earnst", as I would call him. Work, travel, extracurricular activities. I know he'll be missed by all who knew him. Condolences to the family.

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**Ken Carr** - August 30, 2021 at 05:06 PM