



Daniel D. Brown

AUG 13, 1941 - AUG 1, 2025



Scan to Visit



Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Events	Page 5
Tribute Wall	Page 6
Media	Page 8



Daniel D. Brown

AUG 13, 1941 - AUG 1, 2025

Daniel D. Brown, beloved father, grandfather, and devoted friend, passed away peacefully on August 1, 2025, in Bradenton, Florida.

Born in Detroit, Michigan, to Daniel Brown and Mildred Kate Whitaker, Daniel lived a life rich in purpose, faith, and service. From a young age, he was drawn to the water, becoming a passionate swimmer, teacher, and competitor. He met his former wife, Wendy, at Flint Junior College in Michigan, where they both swam competitively and taught swimming together. His talents in the pool earned him a full scholarship to Central Michigan University, where he completed his bachelor's degree. He later went on to earn his master's degree from Indiana State University.

Daniel's career in parks and recreation was more than a profession—it was a calling. He began as Director of the Lincoln Park, Michigan, Park District, where he played a key role in developing the Lincoln Park outdoor swimming pool and indoor ice-skating rink. Years later, after moving with his family to Skokie, Illinois, he became Director of the Skokie Park District. There, he spearheaded the development of the Oakton Park outdoor water slide park and the cherished Emily Oaks Nature Center, leaving a lasting legacy of accessible, joyful, and nature-filled recreation for generations to come.

Beyond his work, Daniel was a man of many passions. He held a deep respect and love for Japanese culture, especially the art of ikebana, the traditional Japanese art of flower arranging. He took great pride in his Scottish heritage and gay culture, making so many deep friendships along the way. He lived a life with strength, curiosity, and warmth so often associated with his ancestral roots. Above all, Daniel was a man of deep and abiding faith in Jesus. His love for God shaped his life, his work, and the way he cared for those around him—with humility, kindness, and generosity.

Daniel is survived by his two daughters, Beth and Heather, his former wife, Wendy, son-in-law, Tim, and his grandchildren Berto, Danella, Samuel, and Jeremiah. His spirit lives on in each of them, and in the many lives and communities he so thoughtfully served.



Obituary

Daniel D. Brown

AUG 13, 1941 - AUG 1, 2025

He will be remembered for his fun-loving spirit, his artistic eye, his love of nature, and his unwavering faith.

Family and friends are invited to a Celebration of Life in Daniels honor on Tuesday, August 19th, 2025, at First Congregational United Church of Christ, at 5:00 p.m.




Events


Daniel D. Brown

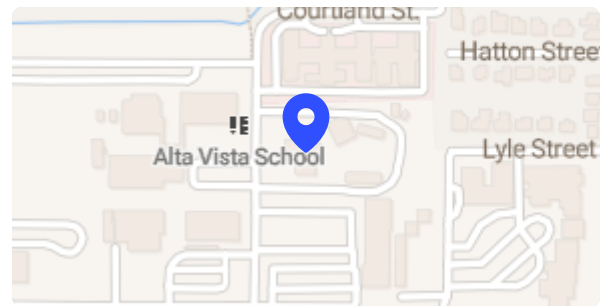
AUG 13, 1941 - AUG 1, 2025

Celebration of Life

 **Tuesday**, August 19, 2025

 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM ET

 **First Congregational United Church of Christ**
1031 S. Euclid Avenue, Sarasota FL 34237





Tribute Wall

Daniel D. Brown

AUG 13, 1941 - AUG 1, 2025

DW

Dan Warren posted:

I met Dan in early 2012 shortly after I moved to Sarasota from Atlanta. I became involved in the local coffee klatch group which is where I met Dan. He graciously hosted the first coffee gathering every fall for several years. He took great pride in his lush backyard garden which he had designed. Dan was a sweetheart, and he will be missed. Dan Warren

August 18 at 5:35 PM

FL

Francis L. planted a grove of 3 Memorial Trees in honor of Daniel.



August 18 at 9:07 AM

RG

Ron Gibson posted:

I remember the first time I went to Dan's house. It was a morning coffee and the street was packed with cars. We went in and were greeted graciously by Dan. Someone suggested I go to the back yard to look around. I stepped into a wonderland of exotic plants, beautiful art works and repurposed/found objects turned into art by this man's hand. Within a few minutes I was joined by our host who offered me a tour. As we walked through his magical garden, I realized this was a special person who was very much at home with nature and his friends. During the years I knew him, Dan shared a great deal of information and endless enthusiasm for life. He secured a place in my heart on that day. I have been lucky to be one of his friends. Ron Gibson

August 10 at 6:50 PM

BB

Beth Brown posted:

Ever since I was a little girl my Daddy loved me like his special princess. He's always meant the world to me. We have enjoyed life to its fullest in the good times and the bad. We've eaten a billion calories together from his special pancake breakfasts, to Saturday night chop suey dinners, going out to eat at Jack's, Long John Silver's, and a zillion tasty ice cream treats. He gave me his green thumb to grow roses and taught me how to fish, drive a car, but most importantly to laugh. We've enjoyed many road trips together listening 60's and 70's music while singing along. He shared Jesus with me and how important it is to have a personal relationship with him and read my Bible. I'm truly going to miss our conversations, his big hugs, when he'd call me his Bethy Boo , But most of all him being here to always tell me he loves me. Save me a place next to you daddy in Heaven, don't cause too much trouble. I'll be there soon. ❤️

August 9 at 6:04 PM



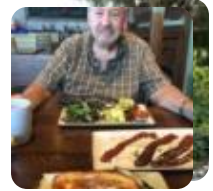
Tribute Wall

Daniel D. Brown

AUG 13, 1941 - AUG 1, 2025



Beth Brown shared 2 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.



August 9 at 5:30 PM



Beth Brown shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

JOY, PEACE, & HAPPINESS ❤️

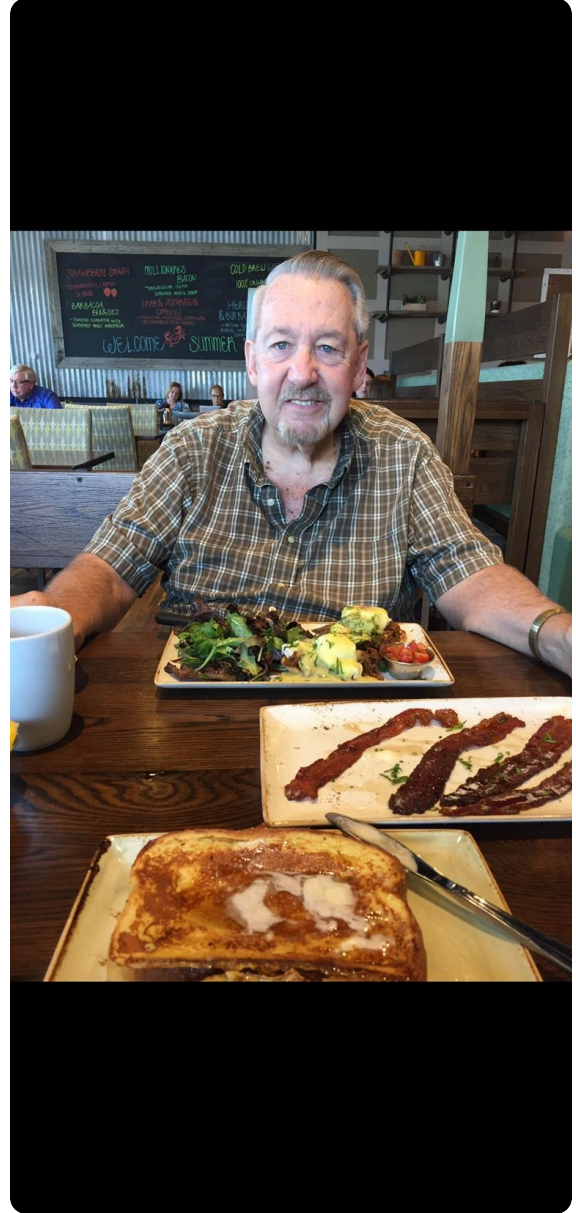


August 9 at 4:28 PM



Beth Brown shared 2 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

August 9 at 5:30 PM





Media

Daniel D. Brown
AUG 13, 1941 - AUG 1, 2025



Beth Brown shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

August 9 at 4:28 PM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Daniel by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



Scan to Visit

