

Plain Brown Rapper

News for the Tandy and Grace Brown Family

August, 2008

Our family has a long standing tradition of giving. Many years ago, during the "Great Depression," endless men were out of work. Reduced to seeking odd jobs and begging. A terrible time for our great country. I'm telling you this, not as a political statement or judgement, only a way of explaining how it was.

During those terrible years, many came to mother's door asking for food. She never turned anyone away and even tho they worked, usually chopping wood for her stove, they were given a warm dinner and something to take for later. Can you imagine a sandwich from her wonderful homemade bread to take along for later?

Marty Brown could have fit into the same category. These weren't exactly beggars but she took in Katie Brown, our son Rodney and many others when they did their student teaching in Casper or Laramie. She fed them and provided them with a room. Rodney laughed about painting the deck on the back of their house. Katie laughed about enjoying the deck on many nights when they had dinner there and the deer came by for a bite of the rose bushes. Marty and Dick's door was always open for anyone who needed or wanted a place for the night.

Of course, this is also true of June's house and Leah and Willis's house and Leonard and Orpha's house and on and on. This is just the way it is in the Brown Family.

However, this isn't the purpose of the Plain Brown Rapper. What I'm leading up to is the generosity of the Brown Family and just how much Marty was loved. After Marty passed, a decision was made to establish a memorial in her name at the University of Wyoming. This is to be a scholarship used in the Department of Education for Non-traditional students seeking a degree in the College of Education. The criteria allows support for both undergraduate and/or graduate students.

Sarah Brown Matthews will be on the scholarship committee and knows first hand how important this type of scholarship is. When her little boys, Ric and Mike were 5 and 4 years of age (1992-1994) she returned to the University of Wyoming as a single mother working toward her Masters Degree. The help Sarah received while there gives her the personal knowledge about how important this funding is to those individuals.

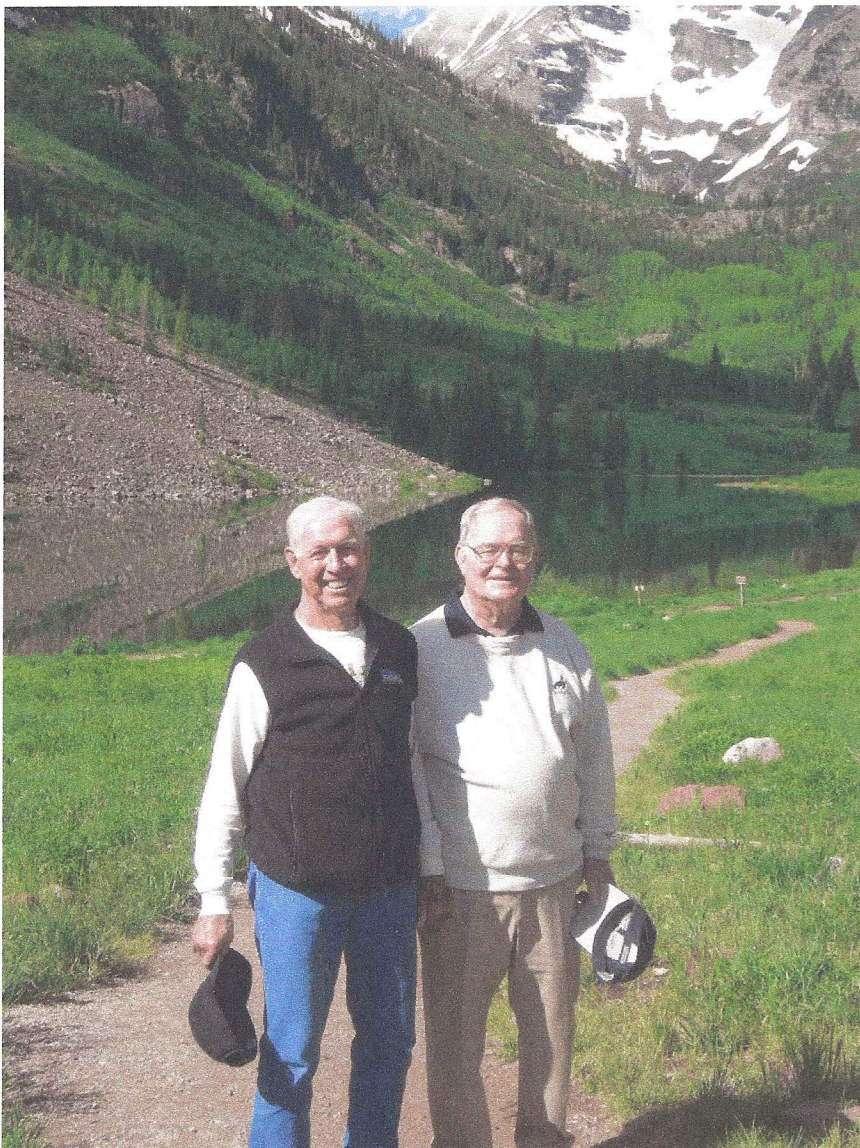
The Scholarship will be known as "**The Martha "Marty" Brown Memorial Fund**" and will generate approximately \$5000 annually in scholarship support.

Because of the generosity of the Brown Family and many others, the fund is approximately \$50,000 which will double to \$100,000 with the State of Wyoming matching funds.

Our family has made contributions of \$15,765 which goes to \$31,470 with the matching state funds. It will provide six years of scholarship assistance for the students. It is worth noting that Ken and Elizabeth Brown (Charles & LaVena) gave a \$15,000 contribution to the fund. I don't normally give the amounts of Memorial donations but this significant donation has by itself put our family portion at an impressive figure.

You cannot judge a person's worth with money, but this outpouring of love for Marty shows how much she was loved and how excited everyone was to make sure there was a memorial which would keep her in our memory for many years to come.

Thanks to all family members who participated in this endeavor and let me tell you how very proud we are and what great people we believe you to be.



Visited with Dick and he is back in Arizona. He had a wonderful visit with Becky, her family and others who came to visit. Golf and visiting many places in the beautiful mountains surrounding Aspen are a great way to recover and I recommend it to everyone. Please keep him in your prayers as he goes thru this very difficult time. His son Charlie will be with him during this time.

While in Aspen, Charles and LaVena came to visit. Here is a picture of Dick and Charles at the "Maroon Bells."

Today is July 26th. Dick had his surgery yesterday, on the 25th. From all indications and the Doctors reports, he is doing very well and they seem to think they were able to get all the cancer as none showed up in the surrounding tissues. His recovery will take some time but he will be home from the hospital in about 3 days (probably Tuesday, the 29th) and well on his way to getting back on the golf course by the end of August.

His son Charlie was with him all the time and reports he was his old self as he came out of the anesthesia. He was asking the Doctors their names, where they were from and telling them thank you for being in the medical field. Typical Mr. Brown.

Plans are in the works for the Memorial for Marty in late September. Perhaps the weekend of the 28th. It will be held in Laramie and the family will certainly let everyone know as the time grows closer.

You can still give to the Martha "Marty" Brown Memorial Fund if you wish. The address is: **"The Martha "Marty" Brown Memorial Fund, 1000 E University Ave., Dept 3374, Laramie, WY 82071."**

As stated before, this fund will enable non-traditional students a chance to go into the field of education and have some financial help.



As summer vacation comes to an end and those with children returning to school or college find themselves back in the groove, just want to say, "hope its been a good one and we have a great deal to look forward to."

Lots of love, Dolfe

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