



## Dan Brown Sr.

October 7, 1952 - April 20, 2025

Dan Brown, devoted husband, father, grandfather, and hot-rod Chevy enthusiast, became for the first time in his life, more than “a phone call away,” when he died unexpectedly on Sunday, April 20th.

For all of his life, Dan was ready to answer any and every call for help or assistance from friends and family, as well as to offer advice, opinions, invitations, provocations, and suggestions, often loudly and with enthusiasm, whether solicited or not. He was fun, stubborn, playful, irascible, and deeply sensitive to the slights and plights of those around him. He was wonderful.

Born in Racine of his parents, John and Cleo Brown, he developed his style of living as the youngest of nine children—Donna, John (Karen), Betty, Barb, Ed (Jan), Kelly.

Jeanie (deceased), Patti (deceased)—but refined it to perfection in the years to follow.

In 1994 he married, Susan Brown of Racine and, much as he loved driving semis, working on cars and cheering for whoever was playing the Packers, he loved her and their shared children and grandchildren best and more than it was possible for them to love him, or so he often claimed (usually followed up with, “Thanks for leaving!”).

He will be missed and fondly remembered by his siblings and his in-laws—Mary Ann (Mike) Richardson, Bill (Kathy) DeMark, Jane (Dick) Smerda, Judy Sweeti, and Patty Tollaksen—as well as a huge contingent of cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends.

He will be missed most by his wife Susan and his kids: Dano (Rebecca) Brown; Tonja (Jenny) Brown; Amy (Sean) Phelps; Kelly Brown; Christopher (Sarah) Nielsen; Peter (Jessica) Brown; Lindsay (Jake) Mertz. Also by his 15 grandkids: Jon, Erica and Emily Brown; Austin and Dani Rindahl; Zac and Cheyenne Brown; Sam, Ben and Jackson Phelps; Anthony and Adriana Nielsen; Heidi, Megan, and Julie Mertz.

Though preceded in death by loved ones including his in-law parents, Tony and Grace DeMark, as well as multiple brothers-in-law and friends, his larger-than-life personality will live on in the memory and service of the rest who knew him, and they will always know that, just as he always said, we need only look over our shoulders and he'll be there.

The family invites friends and family to honor the man and his memory by getting together to laugh and tease and tell stories together over pizza and Pepsi at one of Dan Brown's favorite spots—Mike & Angelo's—on May 10th from 12 noon to 3:30pm.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

MAY 10. 12:00 PM - 3:30 PM (CT)

Mike and Angelo's Italian Restaurant  
6214 Washington Ave (Hwy 20)  
Racine, WI 53405

# Tribute Wall



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dan Brown Sr..* ”



May 10, 2025 at 08:28 AM



“ *Love-Lindsey and your family at Bernie's purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Dan Brown Sr..* ”



**Love-Lindsey and your family at Bernie's** - May 09, 2025 at 04:51 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Dan Brown Sr..* ”



May 08, 2025 at 03:13 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dan Brown Sr..* ”



May 08, 2025 at 01:04 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dan Brown Sr..

May 08, 2025 at 01:04 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Dan Brown Sr..



May 07, 2025 at 10:10 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dan Brown Sr..

May 07, 2025 at 10:10 PM



“ I didn't know Dan except for seeing him at the desk where Sue worked for POD 2 every Wednesday morning. There wasn't a shift that he didn't stop to bring her coffee or a treat. How silly I thought, but I long for someone who would do that for me. They flirted and he made her smile every time. Rest in peace Dan, you will always be just a memory away. Love you Suzy!

**Clare Kosterman** - May 07, 2025 at 07:54 PM

JB

“ A quick story about my Uncle Danny, when I was probably 6 or 7yrs old my family would travel to St. Louis Missouri to visit my grandparents. Uncle Dan was 8 yrs older than I and, on this trip, when we got there he had a new 4 piece "Sparkle Blue Slingerland drum" set in the house. Boy I was amazed and I coveted those drums! He said I could not have them but he gave me his 45s record collection to take home. Hours upon Hours spent listening to good vibrations by the beach boys or she's got it by the Zombies, twist and shout by the Beatles! I always wanted to be a musician from my earliest recollection and Uncle Danny definitely sparked my interest thru his giving nature and love of music early on. Thank you, you will be greatly missed.

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**John Eugene Brown** - May 06, 2025 at 07:29 AM

LR

“ Love Tana Kubenik & Liz & Brian Richter purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Dan Brown Sr..



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**Love Tana Kubenik & Liz & Brian Richter** - May 04, 2025 at 09:35 PM

ST

“ Sincerely, Mike and Shelli Tippett purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Dan Brown Sr..



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**Sincerely, Mike and Shelli Tippett** - May 04, 2025 at 10:49 AM

DM

“ So sorry to hear Great guy Have known for many years Prayers for the family

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**Diane Matter** - May 02, 2025 at 09:38 PM

RB

“ I ate my first Taco because of you. You came to my Mom and Dads house with Maggie and turned us on to corn tortillas, fried with the proper ingredients. Seems weird but back in 1970's it was a first for us, and yes they were delicious. Played Santa for my first born..Helped me with making a 68 Chevelle look like a hot rod, slicks and bucket seats. Never asked you just seemed to know what I needed. Through out the years I called you answered, we talked and you were always helpful. I've been lucky, within our family there have been so many whom have helped me. Your legacy is here with your children and grandchildren. I love you.

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**RONALD BROWN** - April 29, 2025 at 01:56 PM

RK

“ The hours spent at Hiawatha gonna miss you Dan

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**Robert J Knudson** - April 28, 2025 at 07:24 PM

BW

“ Sending healing prayers to the family. Dan always made me laugh with his fun jokes. He helped coach the ball team from Witt's many years ago. Gone to soon.

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**Betty Witt** - April 28, 2025 at 07:18 PM

FB

“ *Frank & Michelle Bower. purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Dan Brown Sr..*



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**Frank & Michelle Bower.** - April 28, 2025 at 05:24 PM

KC

“ *The world would be a better place if there were more people like Dan. It was always a pleasure to cross paths with him and catch up. You will definitely be missed Dan. Ken Christman.*

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**Ken Christman** - April 28, 2025 at 11:51 AM