



## John Brown

August 1, 1921 - June 3, 2011

Remembering the Life and Legacy of John E. Brown Jr. John E. Brown Jr. gave a lifetime of service to JBU and country, including his term as president from 1948 to 1979 (Services for Chancellor Brown will be held on Friday, June 10 at 2:00 p.m. in the Cathedral of the Ozarks on the campus of John Brown University with Dr. David Bush officiating.) John E. Brown Jr., the second president of JBU, passed away June 3. He was 89. As an alumni, president and chancellor of the university, he leaves a legacy as being one of the greatest champions for JBU. His efforts benefited former students, benefits students today, and will benefit future students as well. Born August 1, 1921, John graduated from JBU in 1942. He trained as a naval pilot and later served aboard a ship with the Pacific Fleet during World War II. He was on the USS Ancon and the USS Eldorado. He received the American Area Asiatic-Pacific Area star, the Philippine Liberation award, and the World War II Victory medal. He was also at NACSB Atlanta, NAS Beaufort, SC and CASCU Coronado, California. He returned to JBU after the war and was appointed JBU's vice president by John Brown Sr. in 1946. John succeeded his father as president of JBU in 1948, when he was just 26, making him, like his father has once been, the youngest university president in America. He received an honorary doctorate from Biola University in 1952. In 1954, Texas Wesleyan College also awarded him an honorary doctorate. He was awarded an honorary doctorate in higher education from JBU in 1993. During his tenure as president, John pushed high academic standards, leading to JBU's accreditation by the North

Central Association of Colleges and Schools in 1962. John also was responsible for the introduction of intercollegiate athletics at JBU and was a lifetime fan of JBU Golden Eagle basketball, rarely missing home games. Under John, enrollment increased steadily, and the Honors Program was founded in 1961. While he was president, John oversaw the completion of the iconic Cathedral Group of buildings in 1957. Beyond the Cathedral, many of the structures that stand on campus today were erected under John's leadership: Mayfield and new wing on J.Alvin (1964), Murray Sells Physical Education Building (1965), Broadhurst Village (c. 1965), Chapman/Mabee Center (1972). A key part of John's legacy was his instrumental efforts in creating a sustained university endowment, raising millions of dollars for the university, much of which funds endowed scholarships to this day. John was given the honorary title of Chancellor in 1987, how most students knew him for the past few decades. John was honored with JBU's Outstanding Alumnus Award in 1999. He was active in Rotary and was named Pioneer Citizen of the Year in 1991 by the Siloam Springs Chamber of Commerce. He married Louise Randolph on May 21, 2006. He was married to Caroline (Trahin) Brown from Nov. 23, 1941 until she died on Jan. 28, 2005. He is survived by Louise of the home, five children, Karen Wilt, John Brown III and wife Stephania, Melinda Pollock, Julie Lolley and husband Mikel, Laurie Wilkinson and husband Burt, 14 grandchildren, and 14 great grandchildren. Up until the final weeks of his life, John could be often found in conversations with students, faculty and staff, about JBU's history, the latest fundraising efforts and Golden Eagle basketball. John once humbly said, "I always say my dad started the college, I came along and sort of held it together, and John, III took it to new heights." His foundational legacy, however, will continue to positively impact the university for generations to come. Personal condolences can be e-mailed to [brown\\_condolences@jbu.edu](mailto:brown_condolences@jbu.edu). They will be collected and given to the family. Public remembrances can be read and shared here. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that gifts be made to the John E. Brown Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund. Gifts can be sent to JBU at 2000 W. University,

Siloam Springs, Ark. 72761 or made online here

# Tribute Wall

BP

“ I was very saddened to hear of your dad's passing. He and your mother did an awesome job of raising you all. I have lost both of my parents (May 2011) so I really understand the void that you are feeling now. But always remember that you are surrounded by angels right now and your faith will make you whole. Love, Brenda

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**Brenda (Johnson) Paquette** - September 19, 2012 at 11:34 AM

RS

“ I wish I could write some magical words that would make all your sorrows vanish. The only one who can do that is Jesus Christ. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time. The one who goes before us; walked through the valley of the shadow of death and rose from the grave. That is the greatest promise we have and it is our promise as well.

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**Rev. Bill & Johnnie Servis** - September 19, 2012 at 11:34 AM

MH

“ Our thoughts are with your family at this time. Mike and Chris Hubbard

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**Mike and Chris Hubbard** - September 19, 2012 at 11:34 AM

HH

“ John was a great person with a great family.

*Thinking of you during this tough time.*

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**Hank & Cheryl Harrison** - September 19, 2012 at 11:34 AM

LH

“ We salute your veteran. Our condolences for your loss & gratitude for your loved one's service to our country.

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**Larry & Lana Hurt** - September 19, 2012 at 11:34 AM

RG

“ Sandy and I would like to extend our deepest condolences to all of you in this time of hurt. Your daddy was a great man.

*Rod and Sandy Gray*

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**Rod and Sandy Gray** - September 19, 2012 at 11:34 AM

WG

“ Our family will always remember the many trips we took, all of the fun times and great food we enjoyed.  
*John Brown University of today is only because John Brown Jr. was President and set the stage for both academics, athletics and the new buildings.*

*Walter and Donnita Gray*

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**Walter and Donnita Gray** - September 19, 2012 at 11:34 AM

SM

“ Over the years, whenever I came into contact with the Dr. Brown, Jr., he always took the time to stop, and to chat. Often it was about our families, for which he showed a Christ like love and concern. He too was deeply passionate about our Nation, and how all that related to the world we lived. Just like his dad, and his children, he truly shared the Head, Heart, and Hand balance so richly embedded in the ideals of JBU. My dad, Terry Moose, and I regret that we will not be able to be there physically, but do want you to know that you are in our prayers and thought at this time.

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**Stephen T Moose** - September 19, 2012 at 11:34 AM

JN

“ To the Brown family:  
We love you guys and we loved your Dad! You all have been a very special part of our high school and college lives.  
Johnny loved spending time on the sidewalks of JBU telling stories and laughing with Dr. Brown, Jr., even today, he tells those stories from the pulpit. "How did all those trash cans get on top of the Cathedral?"--but best of all your Dad believed in both of us and what we could do for the Lord. We will miss him!

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**Johnny and Marjorie (Ratzlaff) Nantz** - September 19, 2012 at 11:34 AM

DV

“ We first met John in June of 1964. He was a man with a vision who loved his family and JBU. He will be missed

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**Dr & Mrs A.P. Vohs** - September 19, 2012 at 11:34 AM

JF

“ We are so sorry about the loss of your father. He was a kind gentle man that always wore a smile. I know he will be greatly missed.  
Your family is in our thoughts and prayers.

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**Jeff and April Rich family** - September 19, 2012 at 11:34 AM

DC

“ Please accept my deepest condolences in the loss of your father. In the '70's I was honored to work with Dr. and Mrs. Brown on a number of projects that benefited both the University and the city of Siloam Springs. Your Mom and Dad were unselfish in their service to others and very gracious in their kindness toward people in all walks of life. It was an honor to be mentored by their encouraging words and their beautiful examples. May God richly bless you as you celebraate his life and remember your sweet mother.

Jim

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**Dr. Jim Caldwell** - September 19, 2012 at 11:34 AM

LH

“ Julie, I'm so sorry to hear of your father's passing. He was such a strong Golden Eagle supporter of my fathers when he was coaching at JBU. I have such good memories of living just behind your grandparents house and coming over for parties such as Halloween etc. Both your mom and dad were always so welcoming. He was a great man in so many ways. He will be missed by many but will always be in our memories. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at the time of saddness. Sincerely, Lynn (Haynes)

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**Lynn (Haynes) Hoskins** - September 19, 2012 at 11:34 AM

JW

“ We truly loved and will miss Dr. Brown. He always met us with a smiling face and a kind word. He always remembered who we were even after many years of being away from the campus. Dr. Brown's dedication to JBU changed the lives of countless students who have gone on to make an impact for the Kingdom of God. Thank you for your dedication to Christ and Christian education; because of your life, John Brown University will continue to change lives for Christ.

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**Jim Weaver** - September 19, 2012 at 11:34 AM

LC

“ To the family of Dr. John Brown --

*On behalf of the children of Ralph and Lucy Kennedy, I'd like to express our thoughts, feelings, and condolences to all the Brown family. Our prayers are with you all.*

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**Lucy Kennedy Cundiff** - September 19, 2012 at 11:34 AM

RB

“ *Such a kind man. Remembering you in your loss and praying for your comfort.*

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**Renee' Shields Bradshaw** - September 19, 2012 at 11:34 AM

LS

“ *Laurie and I greatly appreciate the leadership role you played at JBU. From the moment we walked on campus we knew it was a unique place. Because of you and your family I received a quality education combined with life skills. During challenging days in our society you had a vision for JBU that has stood the test of time. Our prayers are with your family in this time of celebration of a life well served.*

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**LaVay & Laurie Sheldon** - September 19, 2012 at 11:34 AM

LB

“ *God's plan for our lives, and our total committment and devotion to each other must not be overlooked. Thank you for making me a part of those five years and the legend you left behind. The Lord is and will always be gracious.*

*Your Loving Wife, Louise*

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**Louise Randolph Brown** - September 19, 2012 at 11:34 AM

WM

“ We were saddened to learn of Dr. Brown's passing and extend our condolences to the family. Karen, John, Melinda, Julie and Laurie...we pray that you will celebrate his life, his legacy, and his love for you, It was a privilege for me to know him and work with him and the University for some 12 years. May the Lord bless you and strengthen you in this time of great loss. Sincerely, Wally Moon

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**Wally Moon** - September 19, 2012 at 11:34 AM

DD

“ Christian condolences to John, Stephanie and the Brown family.

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**Dave Denton** - September 19, 2012 at 11:34 AM

RR

“ We have always regarded Dr. Brown with the utmost fondness and respect during the 46 years we have known him. He has contributed so much to the community, to the cause of higher education and to JBU. He was always warm and personable, ready with a smile and a funny story. His presence will be greatly missed. We extend to you, his family, our condolences.

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**Richard Ruble** - September 19, 2012 at 11:34 AM

JH

“ I moved to Siloam Springs in 1977 because I wanted to work for Dr. Brown...and that was one of the best choices I ever make. I respected the man and loved him. God bless you, Dr. Brown.

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**jim huskins** - September 19, 2012 at 11:34 AM