



Shirley Ann Brown

January 16, 1939 - December 2, 2025

Shirley Brown, 86, of Chattanooga, passed away Tuesday, December 2, 2025, in the Hospice Care Center of Chattanooga. She was born on January 16, 1939, in Pelham, Georgia, to John Henry Morgan and Ollie Mae (Morgan) Black. Shirley was one of five siblings—Jean, Jeanette, Stanley, and John Jr.—raised in a home where strength, hard work, and trust in Jehovah were cherished values. Three of her siblings—Jean, Stanley, and John Jr.—preceded her in death. The family later relocated to Cleveland, Ohio, where Shirley grew up and built lifelong roots. She graduated from John Hay High School after completing advanced secretarial courses, which led to early opportunities in local government offices. Her diligence and determination were unmistakable, even as a young woman.

Shirley and Ron first met as teenagers while attending the same congregation of Jehovah’s Witnesses. Shirley and her sisters regularly attended a special “Watchtower Study” for young ones across the city. Over time, the paragraphs grew shorter and the conversations grew longer—until there were far less studying of the material and more studying on the dance floor. Still, Shirley made one thing clear—especially to Ron: she was not interested in courting or marriage. She even joked that she belonged to the “AAA” — the Available After Armageddon club — and if you knew Shirley, you knew she meant exactly what she said.

Ron respected her preference to enjoy her singleness and pursued his theocratic goals by serving where the need was great in Georgia. Meanwhile, Shirley remained in Cleveland, working, saving, and preparing for her own desire to serve where the need was great. In time, Ron returned, their friendship blossomed with warmth and Jehovah's blessing, and they were married on August 6, 1960. Together they served as full-time ministers in Marietta, Georgia, forming deep friendships and helping many come to know Jehovah. These bonds later extended to Chattanooga, where they served faithfully for decades.

Throughout her life, Shirley worked in a variety of roles. She began as a secretary in local government, where her professionalism and attention to detail earned admiration and trust. Later, she cared for and cleaned residential homes, becoming known for treating others' homes with the same pride and tenderness she gave her own. Her outward beauty was undeniable, but her inner beauty—her kindness, her honesty, her dignity, and her deep love for Jehovah—truly defined her. She expected those same values from others and often said, "Two things in this world that I can't stand: a liar and a thief."

Genuine and steady, she lived by the principles she held dear.

At home, Shirley was a devoted wife and mother—a source of comfort, laughter, and encouragement. She worked tirelessly for her family, always putting their needs above her own. Her generosity was effortless—simply who she was. In the kitchen, her creativity became one of her greatest gifts. Shirley was an extraordinary cook and baker—expressive, confident, and full of soul. Every dish she prepared carried love, transforming ordinary meals into cherished memories.

Shirley's first and greatest love however, was always her relationship with her God, Jehovah. She solidified this love by means of dedication and symbolized it by water baptism on January 7, 1951. She loved sharing her Bible-based beliefs and spoke with joy about the hope of living forever in Jehovah's

promised “grand new world.” She treasured the assurance that Jehovah will awaken those sleeping ones and restore them to life in a peaceful, righteous new world. Even in her waning moments, Shirley’s deep trust in Jehovah shined brightly. Despite difficulty speaking, she still voiced—and even sang—her favorite songs about the time when everlasting life is “just around the corner.” Her hope remained alive until her final breath.

Shirley is survived by her loving husband, Ronald; her daughters, Nicole (Gene) Johnson; Kirsten (Brasper, Jr.) Wortham; Rhonda (Franklin) Jackson and their son, Preston; and her son, Jared A. (Meagan) Brown. She is also survived by extended family in Ohio, and New York, as well as many spiritual brothers and sisters who eagerly look forward to welcoming her back in the resurrection that Jehovah lovingly promises (John 5:28,29).

The family wishes to express heartfelt appreciation for the love, kindness, and support shown by friends, spiritual family, and loved ones in the Lookout and surrounding congregations—not only over the years, but especially during these last few weeks as Shirley’s illness became more critical. Your prayers, visits, heartfelt messages, lovingly prepared meals, and countless acts of kindness brought comfort and strength during an incredibly difficult time.

A memorial service will be held for Shirley on Saturday, December 20, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. in the Chapel of Taylor Funeral Home.

DIRECTIONS TO LIVESTREAM (One Room Streaming): Click on the link below

<https://view.oneroomstreaming.com/index.php?data=MTc2NjE3MTM2MDE4MzM2MDEmb25lcm9vbS1hZG1pbiZjb3B5X2xpbms=>

ONLINE ATTENDANCE (Zoom Streaming)

Meeting ID: 857 0335 4585

Passcode: 012845

Previous Events

Memorial Service

DEC **20**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Taylor Funeral Home
3417 Wilcox Boulevard
Chattanooga, TN 37411-1076

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Brian Thompson - December 30, 2025 at 06:11 PM



“ Much love and deep condolences and much gratitude to Jehovah.



Brian Thompson - December 20, 2025 at 03:08 AM



“ From Tony , Brenda & The Jones Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Shirley Ann Brown.



From Tony , Brenda & The Jones Family - December 18, 2025 at 10:26 PM

CC

“ My heart just hurt yet I'm so glad I had a chance to visit with her in hospice being with her by myself for a few moment , talking to her, singing to her. oh Jehovah my heart hurts but she is in your hand and soon we will see her again. What a wonderful privilege to have known Sis Brown and the fine example she sat for me to follow especially the love she had for Jehovah and other and her comment given at that meeting has always been an encouragement to me something I will miss for now. So my condolences go out to the family for the loss of their love one who they love dearly.

chenefa cothran - December 17, 2025 at 12:48 PM

DM

“ Like so many who are mourning with the Brown family, I have known Sister Brown since childhood. Being the same age as Nicole, our families were in the same congregation, and some of my earliest memories are connected to the time we spent together and the spiritual foundation that was built during those years.

One of the words I have always associated with Sister Brown is grace. She carried a graceful elegance—one that was evident not only in the spiritual activities we shared, but also in the way she lived her daily life. In her own way, she left a lasting impression on those who had the privilege of knowing her, and it is easy to see that same grace and strength reflected in her family.

At times like these, I find comfort in remembering the loving association we had and the spiritual example she set—memories I still hold close from our time together in Chattanooga.

At this time, Gary and I would like to extend our heartfelt condolences to the entire Brown family. We share the hope, the desire, and the deep confidence that we will see Sister Brown again, and we hold all of you close in our thoughts and prayers.

Decia Moore - December 16, 2025 at 04:37 PM



“ My favorite memory of Sister Brown, is my first call that I got to go on with her. I enjoyed Watching her introduce the enjoy life brochure, and enthuse about the good news as if it were her first time hearing about it. I had chills. I was being convinced and in awe just as if I were the intended audience. The way she explains the truth so vehemently , with such confidence and emotion, it's unmatched. Her faith is infectious, and I needed that❤️🔥

LaTauvia Rogers - December 16, 2025 at 04:29 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Shirley Ann Brown.



December 15, 2025 at 06:51 PM



“ Judah, Courtney, Ariel and Alex Jackson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Shirley Brown.

Judah, Courtney, Ariel and Alex Jackson - December 15, 2025 at 06:51 PM



“ Dave Carol Jenny Joe Tanya Olivia purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Shirley Ann Brown.



Dave Carol Jenny Joe Tanya Olivia - December 14, 2025 at 11:12 PM



“ I am Gwen Wilson niece Tina I remember her love her with all my heart my sympathy go out to the family with love

Letina Slay - December 14, 2025 at 10:09 PM

SC

“ This is my favorite picture of the (2) Shirley's. We send our love and condolences to you Ron, Nicole, Gene, Kirsten, Brasper, Jr, Jared, Meagan, Frank, Rhonda and Preston.
Leon&Shirley Caudle ❤️❤️



Shirley Caudle - December 14, 2025 at 06:33 AM

SC

“ This is my favorite picture of the (2) Shirley's We send our love and condolences to you Ron, Jared, Magen, Nicole, Gene, Kirsten, Brasper Jr and the Jackson's.
Leon&Shirley Caudle ❤️❤️



Shirley Caudle - December 14, 2025 at 05:34 AM



“ *When I think of Shirley Brown, I will miss her beautiful genuine SMILE. As well as her warm greetings and hugs she gave me and my kids after the assembly. I'll always cherish how Shirley Brown and her husband Ronald studied with my late parents Roger and Patricia Glenn.*

The very first witnesses that introduced them to the truth as they eagerly accepted and as a result my entire family studied and the majority became dedicated witnesses in our adult life.

*Look forward to the resurrection 😊
Sis. Teresa Renee Glenn-Ward*

Purple Passion Renee Glenn - December 13, 2025 at 07:24 PM



“ *We fondly remember Sister Shirley and Brother Ron stopping by on the way to attend an Assembly in Ohio. They came baring gifts, both spiritual and physical. They both shared warmly with soothing smiles about God's goodness and instruction. Brother Ron broke down Matthew 28:19 & 20 in a way that I had never thought of before. It was just what we needed to hear. Sister Shirley had baked the best baguettes and brought some of her lovely home made jam! It was a wonderful visit to say the least. We will not soon forget her contagious smile and sweet gentleness. We can hardly wait to see her new garden! Boy what will she do then!*

Amanda Thomas - December 13, 2025 at 12:20 AM



“ *1. Never let go of Jehovah's hand.
2. Make it a matter of prayer.*

angela Millsaps - December 10, 2025 at 10:33 PM



“ *The first day I met both Mr. and Mrs. Brown (Mom/Pop), they were calling on my son and I stopped by before I could, she gave the warmest greeting and they had me at hello. Love Sis.Lewis (Angela)*

angela Millsaps - December 10, 2025 at 10:29 PM



“ *I fondly remember talking to Shirley after Meagan & Jared had started their courtship and her description of the conversation she had with a brother from Meagan’s congregation in Wisconsin. Shirley called to get a little background on Meagan. And then she was a little surprised when Kit, the brother she had called, starting asking her about Jared’s background! After all she had the 'perfect' son, so her standards were very high. But she didn’t realize that it was Kit's opinion that Meagan was the perfect single sister, he wanted to make sure that the man she’s marrying is up to her standards. I can so easily visualize the look on her face and the sweet tone of her voice as she described the experience. A wonderful memory!*

Tom Thompson - December 10, 2025 at 08:01 PM



Yes! Jehovah blessed them with "the perfect family"!!!

Brian Thompson - December 12, 2025 at 06:07 PM



“ *Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Shirley Ann Brown.*



December 10, 2025 at 07:28 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Shirley Ann Brown.*



December 10, 2025 at 07:17 PM



“ *Betty Euell planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Shirley Brown.*

Betty Euell - December 10, 2025 at 07:17 PM



“ *Johnny & Katrena Hereford purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Shirley Ann Brown.*



Johnny & Katrena Hereford - December 10, 2025 at 06:08 PM



“ *We are so sorry for the loss of your loved one. From her obituary, she was an excellent example of faithfulness and love for all of us. May Jehovah continue to comfort the family at this time. Psalm 94:17-19*

James & Angela Ward - December 10, 2025 at 04:02 PM

MT

“ Mark & Amanda Thomas purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Shirley Ann Brown.



Mark & Amanda Thomas - December 10, 2025 at 03:16 PM

NP

“ Northeastern Power purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Shirley Ann Brown.



Northeastern Power - December 10, 2025 at 02:48 PM

NP

“ Northeastern Power planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Shirley Brown.

Northeastern Power - December 10, 2025 at 02:48 PM



“ One of the memories I treasure most of her is how naturally friendly and welcoming she always was. You never had to announce yourself or wonder if it was a good time—she made you feel at home the moment you walked through her door or even just approached her at the Hall. Her warmth wasn’t something she tried to project; it simply flowed from her.

What stood out just as much was her positivity. No matter what she was facing, she had this calm, uplifting way of looking at things. Even in difficult moments, she found something encouraging to say—something that helped you breathe a little easier and reminded you to trust in Jehovah’s care.

It’s those little moments—her cheerful greeting, her kind eyes, her steady, positive spirit—that I hold close.

Indu Eapen - December 09, 2025 at 11:32 PM



“ I knew sister brown and her family for decades her family amongst others all lived in the neighborhood of St. Elmo I know she will be missed and had a heart of gold I'm remembered of the scripture at revelation 21:4 how it talks about how god (Jehovah) will wipe away tears and how death will be no more neither will mourning nor outcry, nor pain be anymore for the former things have passed away

Allen Underwood - December 08, 2025 at 08:01 AM

LA

“ I didn't know Shirley well. But I do know that I always loved seeing her because she had a beautiful glow about her and constantly full of care that you could feel. I know she will be missed by many And we look forward to seeing her again in the future that she believed in and shared with frequently in her faith in Jehovah's promise of a future that will bring our loved ones back and live in a paradise earth.

Lisa Arteaga - December 07, 2025 at 11:02 PM

LA

“ I didn't know her well But what I do know is that every time I saw her I couldn't help but feel good. She always had such a beautiful glow about her that made you feel so happy that you saw her that day. She will be missed by so many. I can't wait until we all can really get to know her and truly get to spend time with her in the future. Something I know she had a strong faith in. She was faithful in sharing her hope.

Lisa Arteaga - December 07, 2025 at 10:55 PM

HL

“ Shirley was a Beautiful spiritual person who loved working for her creator JEHOVAH in all phases of her life , she particular liked working in her yard and garden. She will be missed for Sure.

Henry Lee - December 07, 2025 at 12:43 AM



“ I've known sister brown along time since I was a youngen we all stayed in the neighborhood of st. Elmo she and her family lived on Tennessee ave me and my family all stayed either on Alabama or st. Elmo ave. Sister brown will be deeply missed.

Revelation 21:4

Allen Underwood - December 03, 2025 at 10:53 PM