



Yolanda "Yolie" Brown

February 2, 1939 - June 25, 2021

God granted eternal rest to Yolanda (Yolie) Josephine Brown the morning of June 25, 2021, at her home in Tampa with her family by her side. She was 82.

Yolie was born in Ybor City, February 2, 1939, to Salvatore and Flora Martino, and was the oldest of three children. When she was nine, the family moved to a dairy farm in Brandon and established Martino Dairy.

Yolie was an exemplary student, and graduated from Brandon High School and The University of Tampa with honors.

She married George Wesley Brown on June 10, 1961, and they marked 60 beautiful years of marriage in June.

Yolie had a homemaker's heart, providing a warm and welcoming place for all. She cherished her roles as wife, mom, nana, sister, aunt, daughter and friend. She loved and celebrated her family and she showed it in many ways, especially in the kitchen.

Yolie was a teacher through and through, and spent many happy (and loud) days in her kindergarten classroom. She retired from Bay Crest Elementary in 2006.

A lifelong member of Henderson Boulevard Church of Christ, Yolie loved the Lord and her Brothers and Sisters in Christ, and faithfully served them all.

Yolie was predeceased by her parents and by two who left too soon: her brother, Thomas J. Martino, and sister-in-law, Shelby J. Brown. Survivors include husband, George W. Brown; daughter, Pamela, and Bruce, Andrew and Evan Metziera; son, David Brown and Brandon Frady; sister, Dolores (Loli), and Dale Thayer; brother-in-law, Buddy Brown, and the many nieces, nephews and cousins whom she dearly loved.

A service honoring Yolie will be held Monday, July 5, 2021, at 6 PM

Henderson Boulevard Church of Christ 3402 Henderson Boulevard Tampa, FL 33609.

Cemetery

Sunset Funeral Home & Memory Gardens

11005 N US Highway 301
Thonotosassa, FL, 33592

Events

JUL 5 **Funeral Service** 06:00PM

Henderson Boulevard Church of Christ
3402 Henderson Blvd, Tampa, FL, US,
33609

Comments



“ My sincere condolences to Yolie’s family. I worked with her at Bay Crest for over twenty years. She always had a sweet smile for everyone. Bless those who were fortunate enough to know her.

Aida Rizzo

Aida S. Rizzo - July 11 at 08:12 PM



“ 45 years ago, as a kid, the Brown's were all truly a 2nd family to me. Yollie & George were 2nd parents. Great, kind people w Great Faith. So sorry to hear of this loss. Much love always. God Bless You. Vic E.

V Edmond - July 06 at 07:39 PM



“ Yolie will be missed by my family and I. She has always had a special place in our hearts. She and her husband have a bond unlike I have ever seen and their daughter holds all their beautiful qualities. The 3 of them have served in many ways in life. Yolie and George are so proud of their son and daughter. The way you see them as a family is a testimony to their love and trust in the Lord and faithfulness to Him. Yolie has a way of always appearing in situations when you didn't even know you needed it. She is always there with information on something she has read or an experience to share in a way that comforts and enlightens. Her sweet giggle is refreshing and her food is just amazing! She can give you a recipe for all she makes or she can throw it together with just ingredients in her frig and it still is the best you have ever tasted. Her gift of teaching is shared and loved by all. My boys always loved having Yolie as their teacher in Bible class. She passed that gift on to her daughter Pam. Yolie gave with her heart in a quiet approach but with a big impact. A woman with so many wonderful gifts and talents from God that she never took for granted. She continued to share them with her family and with the world. You can see that in her husband and children. She is a wonderful woman to have known and to love.

Sharon Kempen - July 06 at 09:03 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Yolanda "Yolie" Brown.



July 05 at 02:55 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers for the family of Yoli Brown. She was a very special lady, so kind and thoughtful to everyone. I loved her laugh and her lessons she taught in our ladies classes. She is truly missed.
In Christian love, Alice Hutchinson

Alice Hutchinson - July 05 at 08:04 AM



“ When I think of my Aunt Yolie, I immediately think of the one Christmas when all of us went over and someone brought “the 12 days of Christmas ornaments “. After passing around the ornaments, as a family we all began to sing the 12 Days of Christmas taking turns to sing our parts. It’s a memory I think about every Christmas and one that always brings a smile to my face. Aunt Yolie was the most kind person and always made me feel her home was an extension of my own. It was always a comfort knowing that she was there and now she will be dearly missed. I know that my Grandma and Aunt Sissy were there to welcome her home. I love you Aunt Yolie. Thank you for everything. Rest In Peace.
Samantha Rivera

samantha rivera - July 04 at 08:57 PM



“ Yollie was my Forever Friend. We became friends in Brandon Hugh School in the fifties and kept our friendship close and real every year. I always looked forward to calling her on her Birthday to sing Happy Birthday. She and George use to “Double Date” with my husband and me in our younger years and share many fun and precious memories. I always admired Yollie’s many achievements and academic honors. Our lives are saddened and we will miss her. She and George will always remain dear to our hearts! We send our love to George, David, Pam and family.

Judy Braddy Hudson & Ervin Hudson - July 04 at 05:08 PM



“ I was a Delta Zeta sister of Yolie at the University of Tampa. She was a couple of years ahead of me, but so sweet in helping me adjust to college life. I married & moved to Brooksville not having the chance to touch base with her, but sweet memories last a life time...RIP Yolie

Mary Teresa Papia Timmons - July 04 at 03:33 PM



“ You only was a sister and friend in our hearts. I do not think death can separate us we loved her with all that we are. When Kathy and I are having our daughter Havilah we went to Yoli and asked her advice, and she told us "have them read, read, read". We followed her advice for both our daughters, and those few words became a staple for Abbey as well and the signature of their lives. Kathy and I remind them every so often it was because of Yoli that we did this. They know, they knew Yoli and they know George and they cherish them as we do. She will always be in our hearts as long as we live and in the hearts of our children who love her dearly.

John Sciabbarrasi - July 03 at 03:57 PM



“ Yolie was a strong Christian. She always had something nice to say. She was very hospitable, very compassionate, and very thoughtful of others

She exemplified a good, Christian woman. She will be missed

Lorrie and Jeff Wolverson

Lorrie Wolverson - July 03 at 03:47 PM



“ Years ago Henderson Blvd. held a bible study on Saturday mornings at the homes of members. Many times we have met at Yolie's home with each of us contributing to the breakfast fare. Wonderful sharing of both the Word of God and the love of Christian sisters. Yolie and George were also one of the many families that helped with Carl's time of missing me when I spent seven weeks in Ky when my brother was operated on and in recovery at home in the late 1999. Their home was always warm, welcoming and loving to all of us. Yolie will be greatly missed. Carl and Gladys Barth

Gladys Barth - July 03 at 09:34 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Yolanda "Yolie" Brown.



July 02 at 03:46 PM



“ I recently read an article in the Preacher's Word daily post in which was stated "Love is the glue that holds everything together."

And at that moment I realized after my Mom passed away, Aunt Yollie became our family glue.

Even though we are individual families she made sure we were all together several times a year. And she cooked for us. She was great in the kitchen.

She always treated us as if we were her own children, grandchildren, and even great grandchildren. Being the consummate teacher, she continually encouraged the younger ones to enjoy learning by reading, doing math, playing games. She taught my girls in Bible classes. She was a wonderful example of a wife, mother and especially Christian.

She served. Everyone, whenever there was a need. She has been having my Father over for meals, for years since my Mother passed. And I wish I had told her more often how much I appreciated that.

I remember outings with Uncle George and Aunt Yollie. Vague little memories, like going to see 101 Dalmatians at the theater, being at a rodeo, at the circus. Seeing the mermaids at Weeki Wachee. And every year she would invite our family to join them at her families' beach house. Some of my fondest childhood memories are at Abuela's Pass-a-Grille beach house.

She was just always there. I will miss her.

Love You Always,
Connie

Connie Brown DeWitt - July 02 at 10:15 AM



“ So very sorrow for your loss. I pray for God's comfort for the whole family.

Louise Sword - July 03 at 02:11 PM



“ Yolie became a part of our family in 1990 when her daughter, Pam married my brother, Bruce. However, our connection began 4 years earlier when her niece, Christina was a student in my kindergarten class at Riverview Elementary School. Christina's mom, Loli, who is Yolie's sister, was my homeroom mother..

Yolie & George attended many Metziera family gatherings where Yolie & I would talk about our kindergarten experiences. After we retired, we enjoyed sharing stories about , traveling, grandchildren & cooking. My family always looked forward to seeing Yolie & George, & our gatherings won't be the same without her.

Carolyn Metziera Bullard

Carolyn M. Bullard - July 01 at 09:17 PM



“ Dear George , Pam, David and all the Family,
Yolie has truly been a special blessing to the Christians at the Henderson Blvd. church of Christ! She filled the role of servant that Jesus emphasized! And she filled it very humbly and behind the scenes! She is the virtuous woman of Proverbs 31, too.
She shared some of her culinary talents with Carol. Yum!
May God be with each of the Brown family and bring you peace and comfort! Cherish and relive the special moments you spent with her!
We loved her...
Love in Him,
Bob and Carol Dunn

Bob and Carol Dunn - July 01 at 02:58 PM



“ It was an honor, a privilege and we were so fortunate to have had Yolie in our lives. Being part of our extended family, we were able to witness first hand Yolie's kindness, generosity and her love of Family. She was the sweetest and most caring person you will ever find. Sweet Yolie will remain in our memories forever. Our condolences to George, Pam and David for your loss.

Yolie's fingerprints will never fade from the lives she touched.

Wayne and Patty Metziera - July 01 at 12:22 PM



“ Audrey, Dottie & Kim, Steve, Stan & Nyla, Stephen purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Yolanda "Yolie" Brown.



Audrey, Dottie & Kim, Steve, Stan & Nyla, Stephen - July 01 at 11:58 AM



“ Hermano George y familia, muchas oraciones y abrazos fuerte!
La señora Yolie, sierva de Dios.

¡Gracias por que dejaste una huella profunda en mi corazon! Su amor por Jesus es un ejemplo para otros seguín a Cristo.

¡La señora Yolie siempre seras especial para mi! Descanse en paz. Con amor,
La'Dawn

LD - June 30 at 02:46 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Yolanda "Yolie" Brown.



June 30 at 01:58 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



LD - June 30 at 12:34 PM



“ Yolie was such a sweet and encouraging woman. She was always so kind and thoughtful. Anytime I spoke with her I knew she was truly listening with her whole heart. My thoughts are with the family.

Adeline Ward - June 30 at 09:09 AM



“ Yollie was a loving, funny and gracious woman and I am one of so many who count it a blessing to have known her.

Pam Anderson

Pam - June 29 at 09:34 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Yolanda "Yolie" Brown.



June 29 at 04:08 PM



“ My dear friend Yolie and I go back as far as Kindergarten. We graduated from Wolf Settlement Kindergarten, Brandon High School. and then University of Tampa together. We lived about a mile down the road from each other, and both our fathers were dairy owners. Yolie was one of my Bridesmaids and I have always loved her dearly ... one of my "Forever Best Friends." She was kind, a faithful friend with a gentle soul and spirit. Her passing has left a big void in my heart. I know she is at peace now in the arms of God our Savior and Father. Love and Miss you Yolie, "Glo"

Gloria C. Nuccio - June 29 at 12:17 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Yolanda "Yolie" Brown.



June 28 at 07:20 PM



“ I am very honored to have been able to have this great lady in my life from day one. I learned so much from her wonderful examples that she gave us daily, just by being herself. This world will not be the same without her in it, but I know God is happy to have her there with him! Love and prayers that you will heal quickly and thank you for sharing her with me. I am truly blessed!!!

Cathy

Cathy - June 28 at 06:59 PM