

Crozier Brown

July 14, 1942 - June 17, 2021



1960



Crozier and Rita

On Thursday, June 17, 2021, J. Crozier Brown, loving husband, father and grandfather, was called home by the Lord at the age of 78.

Crozier was born on July 14, 1942 in Waco, TX to Benjamin F. Brown III and Mary Hunt Brown. He grew up and graduated high school in Waco, TX before moving to Austin, TX to further his education. While attending the University of Texas at Austin, he earned a Bachelor of Science degree and a Master of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the College of Engineering now known as the Cockrell School of Engineering.

Upon completing his graduate degree, Crozier served as a leader and early adopter in the use of information technology to find civil and petroleum engineering solutions. When Global Positioning Systems (GPS), Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and satellite imagery were new technologies, he was an early adapter who learned how to apply these tools to the engineering discipline, demonstrating their value and guiding users.

He also co-authored the computer software used to design the drainage system for the 18,000-acre Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport. For his contributions in the field of engineering, Crozier was inducted into the University of Texas Civil, Architectural and Environmental Academy of Distinguished Alumni in September 2016.

After his successful career as an engineer, Crozier, a man of strong faith and a friend to anyone who met him continued serving the community as an active participant in many civic and philanthropic endeavors. He served on the board of the Twelfth Step Ministry dedicated to the support of individuals in North Texas, and he also served as a member of the Shelton School Board in Dallas, TX, always working to help individuals empower themselves and reach their full personal and academic potential. The patriarch of the family, Crozier was a great family man and friend to all who knew him. Along with his sweet temperament and big heart, Crozier enjoyed the company of others and loved spending time partaking in hobbies such as hunting, golfing, going out for nice dinners and watching and rooting for his beloved UT Longhorns.

Crozier is survived by his loving wife of 49 years, Rita Taylor Brown of Dallas, Texas, daughters April (Robbie) Munoz of San Antonio, and Sherri (Trey) Henry of Celina, and son Larry Southworth of McKinney, five grandchildren and nine great grandchildren and his sister in law.

He was preceded in death by his father Benjamin F. Brown III, his mother, Mary Hunt Brown, aunt, Louise Hunt, uncle, James Hunt and brother, Benjamin Franklin Brown IV.

Visitation will be held on July 2, 2021 from 6 – 8 PM at the Sparkman/Hillcrest Funeral Home, 7405 W Northwest Hwy, Dallas, TX 75225.

A church service will be held at Lovers Lane United Methodist Church 9200 Inwood Rd, Dallas, TX 75220 on July 3, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

Internment will follow at the Sparkman/Hillcrest Cemetery.

Crozier was a wonderful Christian man who practiced what he preached. I tried to get him to tell his story to our graduates but Crozier explained he was shy and hesitant to do so but would "think about it".

Crozier attended Dean-Highland Elementary, North Jr High School, and graduated WHS 1960. Crozier told me he would not be so shy if he had his life to do over. He said he had an older brother who was 12 years his senior and no sister so he was never "around" girls very much. Crozier said he became semi-comfortable around girls when he was a junior in high school after he got his driver's license and a car. He said he always made "good" grades but studied for his grades. Crozier said he had many friends- mostly those he went to church with at First Baptist and those who were in Boy Scouts and Explorer Scouts with him.

Crozier was a wonderful caregiver to his wife, Rita, who had been ill for quite some time. Crozier was in a support group (met once a month) with 25 men who had similar caregiver problems. Crozier said he found this group to be quite helpful.

Info from his Facebook page:

Work



Works at J Crozier Brown and Associates
Dallas, Texas



Worked at Atlantic Richfield Company (ARCO) Dallas and
Plano



Worked at URS/Forrest and Cotton, Consulting Engineers
Dallas, Texas



Worked at Lovers Lane United Methodist Church

College



Studied at University of Texas at Austin, College of
Engineering, Graduate School
M.S. in Civil Engineering · Class of 1967



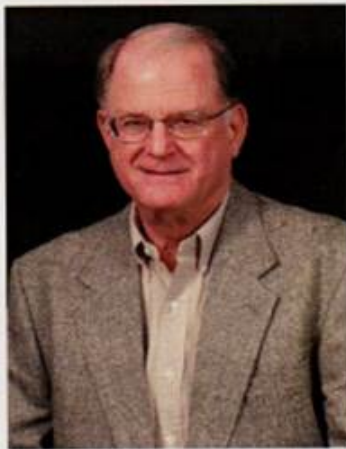
Studied at University of Texas at Austin College of
Engineering
Class of 1965
BS in Civil Engineering

On September 30, 2016, Crozier (BS 65, MS 67) was inducted into the Academy of Distinguished Alumni of the University of Texas' Department of Civil, Architectural and Environmental Engineering. All Honorees are always recognized for expertise in their own particular fields, research and education advancements, and their strong leadership qualities. A total of 8 people were nominated and inducted that year. The nominating and election process stretched over a year. Crozier said he was nominated by one of the few surviving professors who was on the faculty when he was in school. Crozier was featured in the November 2016 issue of the Town Crier regarding this award.

Following are a few pictures during the ceremony that day. I feel certain it was quite a memorable day for Crozier. I am so glad some of his Waco buddies were able to share the occasion with him. An interesting tidbit about Crozier that was mentioned:

"Crozier co-authored the computer software that was used to design the entire rainwater drainage system for the 18,000 acre Dallas/ Ft Worth International Airport when the airport was built. To date, the airport and its runways have never flooded, even in the heaviest of Texas' downpours."

The write-up about Crozier featured in the program:



J. Crozier Brown
B.S. 1965, M.S. 1967

Crozier Brown is a prominent leader in the development of effective applications for computing and mapping using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Global Positioning Systems (GPS). He has been a pioneer in applying GIS, GPS, aerial photography and satellite imagery to solve civil and petroleum engineering problems. For over 25 years, he has led his own company, J. Crozier Brown and Associates, as a consultant, advising small and mid-sized engineering firms on the utilization of computer applications in all phases of a construction project's life cycle.

Previously, as GIS Manager at Atlantic Richfield Company, he introduced over 500 professionals to the marriage of computers to airborne remote sensing, data automation and both surface and subsurface data storage and analysis. He designed and managed the development and implementation of a geologic "living" map of the North Slope of Alaska consisting of maps of several hundred different components. Over the years, he has also served in numerous leadership roles on ASCE committees that were establishing policies and procedures for the use of computers in the civil engineering profession.

The Waco bunch who shared the occasion with Crozier:

I-r: Bill Alexander, Bob Powell, Bob Easter, Crozier Brown



Crozier's Family who attended:

I-r: (Son-in-law) Robert ..., (daughter) April..., Crozier, (son) Larry



Professor Furlong was Crozier's professor (many years ago) and the one who nominated him for the award.

l-r: Crozier and Professor Richard Furlong.



Comments from some of our graduates regarding Crozier's death:

Gwen Ewing Hodges Condolences to all who loved him/ we will all miss him 🥹🙏🙏🙏

Robert Wilson So sorry to hear that Crozier lost the battle to covid-19. But he had already won the victory over life. Crozier and I shared and we both know that He is already in heaven because he had received Jesus as his Saviour. He has claimed the promise of eternal life with Jesus.
I pray God's riches blessings and comfort for the family.

Larry Thomas He had a strong faith. We were in Boy Scouts together at Highland Baptist Church. His Father was a leader and great mentor. I was blessed to have lunch with him before the pandemic.

Rod Sommer: It was so good to see him during our last two reunions, and to spend time with him. He was a very caring and humble guy. Attending Ron's funeral in 2019 was a blessing for our family. Roger and I both appreciated him being there.

Pam Prickett Tucker WHS '61- Sad news

Clara Sue Griffis Arnsdorff: He was a fighter---and that was his longest battle. What a terrible scourge we have endured---I admire him for his battle and send love to the family

Bev Murphy Wells: What sad news about Crozier! I know he fought courageously. My sincere condolences for his family.

Betty Luedeker Gatlin: Now we have lost 2 of our fighters. God bless both Phyllis and Crozier's families. At least are not in pain now.

Tim Lasseter Latta: So sad about Crozier. Sweet man who had to endure so much awfulness and then to pass away anyway.

David Dibb: I will miss him. He has been a great friend over the years.

Tommye Ruth Blair Toler: What a long, agonizing battle. Rest in Peace, Crozier.

Joe Riley: Thank you for sending us the sad news of Crozier Brown's demise due to Covid-19 and its complications. You have said it beautifully, summarizing for me and I'm sure for all of us how we feel:

"Bless his sweet heart....he was a fighter. I do not know how he made it through some of the terrible issues he endured before his demise. He must have had a tremendous will to live!"

Kay Phillips Sparks: I am so sorry to hear that Crozier didn't make it after he tried so hard.

Crozier at some of our reunions:



2018



2015





2015



2015



2010



2010



2010

Rest in Peace, Crozier. You will be missed but never forgotten.

Visitation and viewing will be held on July 2, 2021 from 6:00-8:00 pm at **Sparkman/Hillcrest Funeral Home**, 7405 West Northwest Highway, Dallas, TX.

Funeral Service followed by burial will be held on July 3, 2021 at 10:00 am at **Lovers Lane United Methodist Church**, 9200 Inwood Rd, Dallas, TX.
[James Brown Obituary - Dallas, TX \(dignitymemorial.com\)](https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/james-brown-obituary-dallas-tx)