



## Charles Brown

May 17, 1942 - September 21, 2011

Charles Brown, 69, of Bloomington passed away September 21, 2011 at the I.U. Health Bloomington Hospital. He was born, May 17, 1942 in Gary, IN to Leo Lester and Mary Frances (Hampton) Brown. Charles graduated from Bloomington High School in 1962, joined the Marine Corps and served three tours of combat in Vietnam. He retired from the Bloomington Police Department as a Captain in 1989 after 22 years of service. Charles was the first black police officer on the city's force.

Survivors include his daughters Kamala (Brown) Sparks and her husband Clayton of Bloomington, IN, Carmen Goodbody and her husband Dennis of Dublin, Ireland, Siblings, Cleo McGruder of Bloomington , Joe, Richard, Raymond, David, and Paul Brown all of Bloomington, Yvonne Brown of Zimbabwe, and Helen Polk of Bloomington. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Omar, Cassia, and Isaac Goodbody, Devezin, Amane, and Izabella Sparks.

He is preceded in death by his parents, sisters Leola Deal and Vicki Brown.

In Lieu of Flowers contributions can be made to the family in care of Allen Funeral Home 4155 S. Old State Road 37

Bloomington, IN 47401.

A Memorial service will be held, 1:30pm Friday September 30, 2011 at the Second Baptist Church in Bloomington. Family and friends can gather at the church one hour prior to services.

Burial will follow at the Clear Creek Cemetery.

Allen Funeral Home funeral home is handling arrangements. Friends can send condolences to [www.allenfuneralhome.org](http://www.allenfuneralhome.org)

# Tribute Wall

CH

“ *I miss you*

*Cheryl*

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**Cheryl** - June 18, 2025 at 02:20 PM

TO

“ *Charlie Brown was always cheerful, but what I best remember was his statesmanlike conduct in a crisis.*

*My heart goes out to his family at this sad time.*

*Sincerely,  
Tomilea Allison  
Mayor, 1983-1995*

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**Tomilea Allison** - March 22, 2013 at 08:18 AM

M(

“ • *Charles “E” as I affectionately call you. My good friend “The Gentle Giant” with the contagious laugh, the Marines marine....tough as nails and got the job done. Let me pay tribute to the fact that you are Bloomington, Indiana’s FIRST BLACK POLICE OFFICER.....Honorable, Fair, Compassionate , a believer in second chances and rose to the distinctive grade of Captain. Charles “E” you are a special breed, you cast a shadow a mile high. You are missed, however, you and your family continue to occupy a special place in our hearts and prayers. Sincerely, Phyllis Kinnear Carington*

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**Mrs. Phyllis (Kinnear) Carington** - March 22, 2013 at 08:18 AM

MI

“ Joe, Richard, Raymond and David

*What can I say? Hearing of Charlie's passing shot volts through my heart. You guys have been my family from childhood... Your Mother, Grandma 'Cille. Charles was a good man, a fair man. He Always had a smile for everyone. I loved to say something 'off the wall' to him just to see him laugh that big laugh  
I'll eternally miss him. I miss seeing you guys too. You truly have my condolence. 7th and Adams*

*Mike*

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**Mike Mull** - March 22, 2013 at 08:18 AM

JA

“ So sorry to hear about Charlie's passing  
He was a fine man and good friend  
He will be missed  
He served all who knew him with knidness  
My condolence to the family  
JAY

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**Jay Johnson** - March 22, 2013 at 08:18 AM

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“ Dear Family, It was with sadness that I learned of Charles' passing. I know that earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal. I am praying for your sorrow to be lightened with the memories of Charles. God bless you. Your Sister, Suzanne

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**Suzanne Faulk** - March 22, 2013 at 08:18 AM