



## Dennis Donald "DD" Brown

April 17, 1949 - January 13, 2025

Dennis Donald (DD) Brown, age 75, went to his eternal resting place on January 13, 2025, in Bloomington, IN. He peacefully passed away with his family by his side, following a lengthy battle with Alzheimer's. He was born on April 17, 1949, the beloved son of Donald and Laurette Brown of Somersworth, NH. He was #3 in a family of eight children, with one sister and six brothers, and was known by those in his hometown as Pinky. DD is survived by his loving wife of 48 years, Denise "DK" Brown, their two children, Amber (Clint) Finley and Mitch (Alyssa) Brown, and three grandchildren, Addy and Aubrey Finley and Jackson Brown. He also leaves behind his siblings, in-laws and a host of cousins who shared in his joyful spirit.

Following his graduation from Somersworth High School in 1967, DD joined the U.S. Navy, at age 18, and served for 21 years, retiring as a Master Chief Petty Officer (AVCM Brown) in 1988. He served two tours with VR-24 squadron in Rota, Spain, made a total of eight deployments with VXE-6 squadron Operation Deep Freeze to Antarctica, and spent the last three years of his career at NAS Point Mugu, CA. He received many awards over the course of his career, including two Navy Achievement Medals. After his retirement he took a position as a government contractor Logistician continuing to support NAS Point Mugu. When the contract abruptly ended in 1995, DD relocated his family to Bloomington, IN where he continued to serve as a Logistician until his retirement from NSWC Crane in March 2020.

DD and Denise met in December 1974 (or, if you asked him, August 1975) in New Zealand during one of his deployments to the Antarctic. They married in New Zealand on December 18, 1976. In November 1977 they moved to Rota, Spain, where they spent the next three and half years. The Navy then took them back to Oxnard, CA, where they spent the next 14 years. After his retirement from the U.S. Navy, DD attended night classes at University of La Verne attaining his Bachelor's degree in Business Administration.

During his time in California, DD was very active with the Special Olympics. He volunteered, coordinating security for the athletes during events at UCLA and Lake Tahoe. He was instrumental in organizing local events and thoroughly enjoyed the medal presentation ceremonies. DD was a devoted Catholic and could be found at St. Charles Borromeo Church where he served as a Eucharistic minister at the 12 o'clock mass.

DD took an active role in the lives of his children and grandchildren. You could find him at swim lessons, soccer and baseball games as the Team Dad, Boy Scout troop leader, and was famous for his oatmeal pancakes. In his later years, he enjoyed watching his grandchildren at swim lessons and meets, attended dance recitals, horseback riding lessons and T-ball games.

DD was a shining light in the lives of all who had the privilege of knowing him. His journey on this earth was one marked by love, compassion, integrity, unwavering dedication to his country, and his faith in God. His passing has left a void in the hearts of his family, friends and many more whose lives were touched by him.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Sunday, January 26, 2025, from 1-4 pm at Allen Funeral Home followed by a funeral service at 4 pm. The service will also be livestreamed through their YouTube channel. A private burial will be

held the following day.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be directed to the Alzheimer's Association, Greater Indiana Chapter, online donations: <https://www.alz.org/indiana> or checks: 50 East 91st Street, Suite 100, Indianapolis, IN 46240. Donors should be advised to include a note to indicate "In memory of Dennis Brown." Contribution notifications can be sent to [Browndk54@gmail.com](mailto:Browndk54@gmail.com).

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

JAN **26.** 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory  
4155 S. Old State Road 37  
Bloomington, IN 47401  
(812) 824-5905  
<http://www.allencares.com>

## Funeral Service

JAN **26.** 4:00 PM (ET)

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory  
4155 S. Old State Road 37  
Bloomington, IN 47401  
(812) 824-5905  
<http://www.allencares.com>

# Tribute Wall

JH

“ I only had the privilege of knowing Dennis in the last year and a half of his life, and only on the pickleball court. The Dennis I knew was kind, fun - someone you could share humor with - and gentle. But he could definitely still put some power behind his serve! I'm glad to have gotten to know him, if only just a little.

---

**Jane Harlan-Simmons** - January 27, 2025 at 08:39 AM

SC

“ I still tell people that if I had an older brother, I wish it was DD. Our lives first intersected in the late 1990s while working on Navy projects, but we later found ourselves long-distance colleagues in the same company. In that regard, we spent much more time collaborating over the phone or email than in person over the years. I cherish my memories of the too few days spent together with DD and his wonderful family whenever I had the rare opportunity to visit Bloomington. Indeed, the Browns always made me feel like part of their family, opening their home and hearts. Having grown up under different circumstances, I always found myself deeply moved during brief glimpses of their truly caring family and happy, loving home.

DD was the most trustworthy, ethical, and level-headed man I have ever known. Compassionate yet firm, serious yet humorous. He was a born leader and inspirational optimist. DK couldn't have found a better man on this earth to match her own loving, compassionate ways. Amber and Mitch, you're truly blessed with such parents and models in your lives.

One thing is certain: I am not the only one who wished for a "brother" like DD in their life. He is going to be missed by all who had the privilege to know him, and remembered by all as a Good Man. They don't come any better.

---

**Sam Calabrese** - January 26, 2025 at 03:39 PM

TS

“ 1 file added to the album AVCM DD Brown



---

**Tracy Smith** - January 26, 2025 at 11:18 AM

AD

“ It was an honor to know Dennis in his final days. A proud veteran, Dennis was an inspiration to all. We will miss he & the Brown family greatly in the Legacy Neighborhood.

---

**Alex Dombkowski** - January 25, 2025 at 01:00 AM

PK

“ I met DD in 1971 when I transferred to VXE6 at Naval Air Station Quonset Point, Rhode Island. We both worked in the Avionics Shop, and he had recently transferred from VR22 in Rota, Spain. After coming back to the States from deployment to Antarctica in 1973, we rented an apartment in West Warwick, Rhode Island. Those were some of the most fun-filled days I had ever experienced. We both loved music and had our stereos going all the time, we both loved to cook and had some delightful culinary experiences and cheap, red wine was our drink of choice. I can remember spending hours playing cribbage or Acey Deucey (backgammon) and Spades or Hearts. We took several trips to New Hampshire to visit his family. His Mom, Dad and family made me feel right at home and his Mom had the best recipe for clam dip which is my favourite to this day. DD introduced me to sangria and I still have his recipe. It made about 7 gallons and was the staple for the parties held in the apartment. To keep the neighbors at bay, we would invite the other eleven apartment renters in the building and for some strange reason, never had a complaint.

We crossed paths again in 1976 when I came back to VXE6 at Naval Air Station, Point Mugu, California from VR21 at Naval Air Station, Barbers Point, Hawaii. DD was sharing an apartment in Camarillo with Rick Roberts, and I moved into an apartment in the same complex. We picked up where we left off and had some great times. The next year, DD brought his new wife, DK to the States from New Zealand and while living in the same apartments, I got to know her as well. I have to say that DK was the best thing that ever happened to DD.

DD was the type of friend that you don't often experience. He was fun to be around and easy to talk to and I don't remember him ever losing his temper. His career in the Navy was exceptional and he was one of the best Aviation Electronics Technicians (AT) I had ever met. He achieved the rank of Chief Petty Officer very quickly and worked his way up to Master Chief Petty Officer in minimum time, culminating his career as a Command Master Chief.

DD, I salute you and thank you for being a good friend, fellow sailor and Command Master Chief. You enhanced my life, you will be

*missed, and I wish you fair winds and a following sea. God bless you.*

---

**Paul Kobar** - January 24, 2025 at 06:43 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Dennis Donald "DD" Brown.*



---

January 24, 2025 at 04:53 PM



“ *Peter Woollacott and Family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Dennis Donald "DD" Brown.*



---

**Peter Woollacott and Family** - January 23, 2025 at 09:50 PM



“ *Peter Woollacott and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dennis Donald "DD" Brown.*

---

**Peter Woollacott and Family** - January 23, 2025 at 09:50 PM

AB

“ Abbie & Devon Burder purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Dennis Donald "DD" Brown.



Abbie & Devon Burder - January 23, 2025 at 08:54 AM

RL

“ Ray & Linda purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Dennis Donald "DD" Brown.



Ray & Linda - January 23, 2025 at 08:00 AM

RL

“ Ray & Linda planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dennis Donald "DD" Brown.

Ray & Linda - January 23, 2025 at 08:00 AM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Dennis Donald "DD" Brown.



January 22, 2025 at 01:32 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dennis Donald "DD" Brown.

January 22, 2025 at 01:32 PM



“ Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Dennis Donald "DD" Brown.



January 21, 2025 at 11:23 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dennis Donald "DD" Brown.

January 20, 2025 at 09:40 AM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Dennis Donald "DD" Brown.



January 20, 2025 at 09:40 AM

TS

“*Master Chief, you were the one who kept everyone on track. When work was needed, you were right there by our side. When the job was complete, you were also the first one to suggest a little R&R, often at your home, in your pool. I'll never forget the party where you served avocados—the first I had ever seen or tasted—lots of wine, and a few shots of tequila as the party slid into the night. I appreciated the New Zealand sheepskin rug you allowed me to take a short nap on when many of us needed to stay. You were our shepherd, mentor, and above all, our best friend. It will be hard to go on without you, but your job here is completed. However, your memory will never fade. You have left us in great shape and prepared to take the watch. RIP Master Chief, we have the watch.*”  
*“P.S. Thanks for your personal Sangria recipe for 40.”*

---

**Tracy Smith** - January 18, 2025 at 09:08 PM

MM

“*Good to chat today NeeCee !  
Remembering MCing a lovely wedding day and Mark reminded me we nearly lost the wedding breakfast on the way when he, Jack and I ,had a wee vehicle mishap !!  
Thinking of you all  
Best  
Uncle Bluey*

---

**maurice mehlhopt** - January 18, 2025 at 08:43 PM

RT

“*To Tom, Linda, David and your entire family, you have our deepest sympathy. We will be praying for you.*

*Rene & Lucille Toussaint  
Farmington NH*

---

**Rene and Lucille Toussaint** - January 18, 2025 at 07:49 PM

TS

“ 4 files added to the album AVCM DD Brown



Tracy Smith - January 18, 2025 at 11:24 AM

JW

“ Joan W. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dennis Donald "DD" Brown.

Joan W. - January 18, 2025 at 11:01 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dennis Donald "DD" Brown.

January 18, 2025 at 10:06 AM



“ Southern Magnolia Tree was purchased for the family of Dennis Donald "DD" Brown.



January 18, 2025 at 10:06 AM

MR

“ *Last time we saw DD was in New Zealand and we enjoyed eating some famous Fearley pies. So happy we have that lovely memory. May God hold you in his sweet embrace*

---

**maria Rapley** - January 18, 2025 at 09:10 AM



“ *Very special memories of a very special person. DD you were a wonderful, kind, thoughtful, loving person. You will have left a huge hole in the hearts and souls of DK & your children, grandchildren and many relatives and friends throughout the world. RIP my friend.*



---

**Paula Mabley** - January 17, 2025 at 07:44 PM