



## Helene Lena Brown

January 1, 1938 - February 19, 2015

Helene Lena Brown, 77, passed away on Thursday, February 19, 2015, at 11:46 p.m., at The Gardens of Wapakoneta, OH. She was born on January 1, 1938 in Dayton, Ohio to Wilhelm and Lena Winter, who are deceased. Her parents are recognized on the American Immigrant Wall of Honor, Ellis Island, New York. Helene attended Moulton School and graduated from Blume High School with the Class of 1956. Many of her high school classmates stayed true friends throughout her lifetime. She attended The Ohio State University and often worked with her father at the family business, Bohrer and Moore Packing Company. On January 27, 1959, she married Thomas Lee Brown who died November 12, 1987. Helene became the sole owner of Brown's Restaurant; the family business once owned and operated by her in-laws, John and Ethel Brown, and their sons, Tom and Wally. While as cashier at the restaurant, Helene's outgoing personality and "gift of gab" allowed her to speak easily with customers and employees alike. She never knew a stranger. Close friendships and fond memories were developed working alongside numerous employees, both young and old, many of whom were local high school students. Helene was a member of St. Paul United Church of Christ in Wapakoneta and a former member of The Junior Service League. Although Helene enjoyed playing golf and working outside in her flower beds and yard, her greatest joy was attending a variety of functions with her family, especially her grandchildren. Survivors include a son, Craig Alan (Linda) Brown of Wapakoneta, Ohio; a daughter, Kay Lynne (Jeff) Dorner of Wapakoneta, Ohio;

a sister, Marlene (Dale) Nelson of Centerville, Ohio; a brother, Willie (Judy) Winter Jr. of Wapakoneta, Ohio; three grandchildren: Drew Thomas Dorner of Columbus, Ohio, Saira Jayne Brown, Athens, Ohio, Emilie Lynne Brown of Wapakoneta, Ohio. Helene is also survived by three nieces; Leslie (Paul) Nelson, Kristen (Gerard) Thorez, Stephanie (Andrew) Owen, a nephew, Brian (Kristen) Winter and many cousins and relatives in Germany and Switzerland. Helene's life was enriched in so many ways by the love and compassion given by her many caregivers, especially Kerry Rotroff. To them, her family is forever grateful. Helen's family also expresses its most sincere gratitude to the staff of The Gardens of Wapakoneta, who took such loving care of her there, and the many friends she was blessed with during her stay. Among God's best gifts to us are the people who love us. Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, February 23rd at St. Paul United Church of Christ, with Pastor Elaine Mikesell officiating. Burial is to follow at the Greenlawn Cemetery in Wapakoneta. The family will receive friends from 3:00 ♦" 7:00 p.m. on Sunday at Bayliff & Eley Funeral Home and Cremation Services, State Route 501, Wapakoneta. Memorial contributions may be directed to the Activity Fund at The Gardens or St. Paul United Church of Christ.

# Tribute Wall

SO

“ *Sending my deepest sympathy, prayers & God's blessings to the family & friends of Helene. She was a beautiful lady, always friendly. May she rest in peace.*

---

**Sonia Opperman** - July 10, 2015 at 03:51 PM

RC

“ *Craig & Family-*

*We want to convey our Condolences to you and yours at the passing of your mother.*

*R. Wayne Gilroy & Cathy Ogden*

---

**R. Wayne Gilroy CES** - July 10, 2015 at 03:51 PM

MN

“ *A person that departs from this earth never truly leaves, for they are still alive in our hearts and minds, through us, they live on. Please accept our condolences, she will not be forgotten.*

---

**Mike and Melanie Norman** - July 10, 2015 at 03:51 PM

SA

“ *Craig, Kay, Jeff, and families, Please accept our deepest sympathy in the loss of your mother. We trust you have wonderful, fond memories that will help you through these difficult times. May Christ love and peace be with you and your families. Our prayers are with you.*

---

**Scott and Brendala Anspaugh** - July 10, 2015 at 03:51 PM

AN

“ Please accept my condolences on the loss of your precious mother. You are all in my thoughts and prayers. God bless all of you.

Amy Lusk Noykos - July 10, 2015 at 03:51 PM

SP

“ Craig and Linda, I was sorry to hear of Helene's passing. I remember the "good old days" when we were neighbors on Glynwood Rd. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and all of your family as you celebrate her life. She touched a lot of people.

Sandy Romshe Phillips - July 10, 2015 at 03:51 PM

JK

“ Thoughts and prayers to the family. Helene was a wonderful and loving person. I enjoyed visiting with her at The Gardens, we spent time remembering the days in the "old neighborhood". God Bless.

Joanie (Clark) Ketcham - July 10, 2015 at 03:51 PM

LA

“ Criag and familys. Sorry for the passing of your Mother. She was a wonderful lady. Prayers are with you.

Leah Agner - July 10, 2015 at 03:51 PM

JH

“ My sympathy to all. She was always a person with a warm smile for everyone. My memories go way back to high school days and, of course, Brown's Restaurant where she was so gracious and outgoing to everyone. May her many memories sustain you during this difficult time.

Jim Harrison - July 10, 2015 at 03:51 PM