



## Theda Brown

May 8, 1925 - March 25, 2025

Theda Penland Brown 99 of Bluefield, WV, passed on to her heavenly home on March 25, 2025 at Bowers Hospice House in Beckley, WV.

Born May 8, 1925, in Dante, VA, she was the daughter of Frank and Fronia Kizer Penland. She had fond memories of growing up on Hazel Mountain with her brothers Furman, Spivey, Clyde and Gene and her sisters Charm, Verle and Wilma. She loved to tell the stories of milking cows before school, churning butter and feeding the chickens.

Her brother Furman was killed in WWII and all of her siblings pre-deceased her. She was raised with her two nieces, Thelma and Anne, who were more like younger sisters to her. She was also predeceased by all of Ralph's siblings, who she was extremely close to.

On 12/24/45, Theda, married Ralph W. Brown and they spent many years together until he passed away in 1991. Their oldest, Ralph, Jr. (Smokey) was born in Dante and they moved to Bluefield when Smokey was 18 month old where their two daughters, Iris and Theresa were born.

Theda was the longest serving member of the Cumberland Road Church of God (for over 60 years). She was the first director of the YPE and taught several Sunday School classes. She later attended Bluewell PH where she taught the youth and adult Sunday School Class. After her declining health she attended Bible Baptist Church and Crossroads.

Theda's house was the gathering place for her kids, grandkids, great-grandkids and their friends, and was Momaw to most. She was a homeroom

mother and on the board of the PTA at East End Elementary and volunteered for several civic organizations. In later years she worked at Cole Bakery and worked many years at R & T Electric until her retirement.

In addition to the above, she was preceded in death by her son, Ralph W. (Smokey) Brown, Jr., a son-in-law Larry Lowman and grandsons Bradley Lowman and Jordan Rose.

Survivors include her daughter-in-law Karen Brown, two daughters, Iris Lowman and Theresa Baria and a special son-in-law Quent Baria.

Grandchildren Rod (Cyndi), Brian (Michele), Doug (Tracie), Angel (Mike), Jackson and Emily.

Granddaughters-in-law Brandi and Kristen. Great grandchildren, Lauren, Will, Caroline, Ashley, Colton, Emersyn, Taylor (Daron), Kaylyn (D.J.), Dillon (Daphney) and Hunter (Morgan). Great, great grandchildren Cayden, Daken, Oaklyn, Eli, Shalen, Phoenix, Saige, Jordan Carter and an expected great, great grandson in August. Her two buddies Aiden and Dakota also survive.

Our many thanks go out to PCH and Bowers Hospice House for her excellent end of life care. Also to her friend Mary Lynn at Mercer Funeral Home, who handled the arrangements with such compassion.

A Celebration of Theda's life will be held on Sunday, May 18, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. at Mercer Funeral Home. The family will receive friends from 1:30 p.m. until the service hour.

Memorial Contributions may be made in Theda's memory to the church of your choice or the Bowers Hospice House, 454 Cranberry Dr., Beckley, WV 25801.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 18. 1:30 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Mercer Funeral Home Chapel  
1231 West Cumberland Road  
Bluefield, WV 24701

## Memorial Service

MAY 18. 2:00 PM (ET)

Mercer Funeral Home Chapel  
1231 West Cumberland Road  
Bluefield, WV 24701

# Tribute Wall

JB

“ *Theda Brown was my very first Landlord for my Manicures and More little shop on Hunter Lane in her backyard. She was a wonderful friend and one of the nicest and loving lady . I know she hid in her heavenly home. I will always remember her .*  
*Jeri Ball*

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**Jeri Ball** - May 18, 2025 at 06:55 PM

LM

“ *Love, Chrissy and Ralph McCracken purchased the Comfort Blanket for the family of Theda Brown.*



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**Love, Chrissy and Ralph McCracken** - May 17, 2025 at 01:50 PM

JL

“ *Theresa, my condolences to you and the families of this fine lady. I met her that one time and you were a blessing to her and she was a blessing to you as well. If there is any thing I can do then let me know. May God's Word ease the time without her and may God bless each of you.. .*



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**John O. Lowe** - May 13, 2025 at 04:29 PM

DM

“ Dawn Adkins and Brenda Meadwell purchased the *Arrive in Style* for the family of Theda Brown.



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**Dawn Adkins and Brenda Meadwell** - May 13, 2025 at 04:08 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Theda Brown.



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May 13, 2025 at 09:55 AM



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

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May 13, 2025 at 09:55 AM

DG

“ *Sister Theda Brown was my Sunday school teacher at Bluewell P.H. church back in the early 1980's. She was a wonderful caring teacher. Sister Theda was a very loving and godly lady. She made a lasting impression in my life, and the lives of many others. my condolences to all her family. God bless you all.*

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**Danette James Gearheart** - April 02, 2025 at 06:05 PM

JS

“ We are so very sorry. She was one of the good ones. So glad she was in our life. God bless you all.



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**Joe Karen Simon** - April 02, 2025 at 05:34 PM

JL

“ Theresa, sorry to hear of your mom. If you need any thing then you know where i am. Hugs and hugs to ya now. She is in Heaven and Vickie is there as well. Later now!



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**John O. Lowe** - March 31, 2025 at 08:47 PM

TN

“ Mr. & Mrs. Brown were such great nieghbors for many years. I also got to see her a lot, while I was visiting another elderly friend, after she moved to her latest home. It was such an honor to see her at our East End reunion we had. I always remember Ralf and her having the big water bottles full of pennies. That always amazed me when I was a child.  
I am so sorry for y'all's loss.

*Tim Nicewonder*

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**Tim Nicewonder** - March 31, 2025 at 08:34 PM