



Corinne D. Brown

May 18, 1924 - February 15, 2025

IN MEMORY OF:

Corinne D. Brown

Serving Location:

CRAIN FUNERAL HOME – ANNA

135 West Vienna Street, Anna, Illinois

Corinne D. Brown, age 100 of Anna died Saturday, Feb. 15, 2025.

She was born May 18, 1924 in Russell, KY, the daughter of James and Ethel Beare Durrett. She was married on June 28, 1947 to Billy J. Brown to whom she was married 58 years before he passed Nov. 24, 2005.

Mrs. Brown was a band director and music teacher in Union County Schools with a career spanning over 40 years. During this time, she taught students ages K-12 in classroom music, Junior and Senior Band, and Orchestra. She was at Dongola Unit School 30 years, Jonesboro 1 year, and Cobden 7 years.

Highlights of her teaching career were leading the first ever invited Illinois band ever to perform at the Kentucky Derby, and participation in the

Philadelphia and Washington, DC July 4th celebrations. She was selected as 1971 "Leader of American Secondary Education" and 1980 recipient of Those Who Excel Award. She served as a cooperative consultant in music education for the State of Illinois in 1977-78: served as consultant for 1979 music leadership summer program at SEMO State University: and had served on the Illinois State Board of Education Region Five Arts Education Committee for the lower 32 counties from 1982-1989.

Corinne was a member of the First Lutheran Church of Dongola, a member of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, the American Legion Auxiliary, VFW Ladies Auxiliary, Illinois Retired Teachers Association, and a 50-year member and past worthy matron of the Order of the Eastern Star.

Mrs. Brown not only achieved numerous awards and recognition over her life but her biggest achievement were all the students she taught, cared for, believed in, and loved. Her influence with all students is a lasting memory of the Best Teacher Ever and that she truly cared about them.

Besides her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by her sister, Jane Brown.

Survivors include niece, Linda (Jerry) Jones, nephew J.C. (Judy) Brown.

Funeral services for Corinne D. Brown will be Tuesday, Feb. 25 at 1:00 PM at Crain Funeral Home in Anna with Rev. Cherie Riedel officiating and eulogies by friends. Interment will follow at Christian Chapel Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 11:00 AM until 1: 00 PM on Tuesday, Feb. 25, at Crain Funeral Home in Anna.

Flowers are welcome, but Corinne requested memorial contributions in her honor be made to Christian Chapel Cemetery, the Dongola Lutheran Church, or P.A.S.T.

Crain Funeral Home in Anna, Illinois is in charge of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Christian Chapel Cemetery

Dongola, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 25. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Crain Funeral Home - Anna
135 W. Vienna St.
Anna, IL 62906
(618) 833-2176
crain@crainsonline.com

Funeral Service

FEB 25. 1:00 PM - 1:30 PM (CT)

Crain Funeral Home - Anna
135 W. Vienna St.
Anna, IL 62906
(618) 833-2176
crain@crainsonline.com

Interment

FEB 25. 2:00 PM - 2:30 PM (CT)

Christian Chapel Cemetery
Dongola, IL

Tribute Wall

PA

“ Peter and Jo Ann Argersinger purchased the Serene Reflections Bouquet for the family of Corinne D. Brown.



Peter and Jo Ann Argersinger - February 22, 2025 at 03:08 PM

CR

“ Thank you, Mrs. Corinne Brown. For your friendship, excellent music instruction and care for your students including my daughters Anne and Margaret when you were teaching at Cobden, Illinois. I often accompanied your students at regional and state school music contests and they were always well prepared. Your school concerts and marching events were highly praised and enjoyed!! Thank you !! Sincerely and with Love, Carol Ryman

Carol Ryman - February 20, 2025 at 02:16 PM

KB

“ My great-aunt was such an inspiration. I remember being so excited when she visited us in Kentucky. So happy she will hear Billy laugh again. ❤️

Kathryn Brown-Hatch - February 19, 2025 at 11:39 PM

JB

“ I was so sorry to hear about the passing of Great-Aunt Corrine. I always looked forward to her visits when she came to see her mother, my great-grandmother, who lived right next to me as a child. Those moments are memories I will always cherish. She had such a kind presence and impacted many lives—including mine. This photo is one of my favorites when the family was all together for Christmas one year.



James Brown - February 19, 2025 at 02:25 PM

DW

“ I remember Mrs Brown being a confident, regal, and caring woman. She was a beautiful lady. I remember her most for trying to help me in playing the French Horn...I could not, and in trying to help me become a cheerleader...I could not do that either. She did, however, find a place for me in the Dongola High School Marching Band. Mrs Brown's influence helped her students be proud of school, community and personal accomplishments. See you on the other side Mrs Brown.

Donna (Mosley) West - February 19, 2025 at 09:27 AM

BH

“ Bonnie j Holman lit a candle in memory of Corinne Brown



Bonnie j Holman - February 17, 2025 at 11:17 PM

LA

“ *She was such a wonderful soul and friend to many.. I'm sure Billy was there waiting on her at the gate!*
God speed my friend
Lori Albers and family

Lori Albers - February 17, 2025 at 04:44 PM

KC

Corinne was a great friend & inspiration. I knew & admired her for a great part of my life. I will miss her.
I know she will be happy with her Billy.
Karen Cutrell

Karen Cutrell - February 18, 2025 at 07:57 PM