

# Melvin Leo Brown

*March 10, 1934 ~ March 11, 2023*

Born in Sandy, Utah on March 10, 1934 Melvin Leo Brown (Mel) passed away peacefully at his home in the Highland Park neighborhood on March 11, 2023 one day after his eighty ninth birthday. Growing up on the family farm in Butlerville, Utah an area of modern day Cottonwood Heights, Mel was the second of four children born to Henry Joseph Brown and Edith Mary Hansen. He was always proud of his pioneer heritage. With his older sister Marilynn and his younger brother Ed and baby sister Gloria, Mel grew up helping out with all the farm chores which included raising chickens, pigs and cows and cultivating a 5 acre fruit orchard. He graduated from Jordan High School in 1953 where he was a proud member of the beetdigger football team and lettered in wrestling. After High School Mel raised and sold minks from the family farm. Enlisting in the U.S. army he served in Germany for two years from 1954-1955. Mel was justifiably proud of his military service and generously contributed throughout his life to various veterans organizations. Following his honorable discharge from the Army, Mel worked for Buehner Block Company for some years and then went to work for Buehner Construction Inc. as an expert iron worker contributing on diverse projects such as the construction of Highland High School, various bridges in Salt Lake and other big projects in Elko and Reno Nevada. He kept up his hard work ethic in retirement by starting a landscaping business with his son Melvin Roy that existed from 1989-1994. Mel married the love of his life Arlene Gardner Brown on June 18, 1965 and was happily married for 35 years when Arlene passed away in 2000. Over the years, the family enjoyed many summers at their cabin at Bear Lake and visits to their St. George home. Mel loved taking long scenic drives and road trips throughout the western United States with family and friends. Mel enjoyed gardening, home building projects, and all things associated with the old west. Mel loved all his nieces and nephews and many friends. A special mention must be made to his dear friend Ron Bell who he shared a lasting bond of friendship. Mel you will be sorely missed!

Mel is survived by his children: daughter Cynthia Joy Brown (Barr Laver) Salt Lake City, Utah and his son Melvin Roy Brown (Mona) St. George, Utah. He is also survived by his brother Edward Brown West Valley, Utah.

A memorial will take place on Friday, 1p.m., March 24, 2023 at Larkin Sunset Lawn 2350 East 1300 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84108.