



Mr. Raymond Winfield Brown Jr.

June 16, 1937 - April 3, 2014

Ray died on April 3, 2014, in the care of the wonderful staff of the Good Samaritan Society Marley House hospice facility here in Prescott.

He had moved to Prescott many years ago, which he said was one of the best decisions he ever made in his life.

He was born on June 16, 1937. He was the son of Raymond W. and Ethel R. Brown, and was born and raised in Jersey City, New Jersey. He is survived by his son, Clint A. Brown, Clint's wife, Brenda, and Ray's granddaughter, Taryn. He is also survived by his son, Jason A. Brown, Jason's wife, Julie, and their children, Jaime, Jeremy, and Jake. Ray was preceded in death by his beloved sister, Eunice E. Pinelli.

Ray was a 1959 graduate of St. Peter's University, a Jesuit college in Jersey City. He earned a scholastic scholarship to the University of Notre Dame Law School in South Bend, Indiana, where he was on the editorial board of the Notre Dame Law Review. After graduation in 1962, he was admitted to the Indiana State Bar and then entered the U.S. Army as a combat branch 1st lieutenant, serving as commander of a Nike Missile Base before entering the Judge Advocate General's Corps, where he soon attained the rank of captain. He served a total of four years active service in the U.S. Army, followed by three years in the Army Reserves, and was very proud of that service.

Ray was admitted to the Arizona State Bar in 1966 and began his law practice in Prescott in 1967 with his good friend and mentor, James P. Boyle, Jr., with whom he was in partnership for fifteen years. He was certified by the Arizona State Bar as a specialist in Real Estate Law for many years.

Ray was active with the Arizona State Bar Association for many years, especially in the lawyer disciplinary system, which dealt with ethical complaints against attorneys. He served as Chair of the Disciplinary Hearing Committee to investigate and resolve disciplinary complaints against lawyers in Yavapai, Mohave, and Coconino Counties for 12 years. Later, he was appointed by the members of the Arizona Supreme Court to be a member of the Arizona Supreme Court Disciplinary Commission, serving for a six-year period and serving as Chair of that Commission. Later, Ray was elected twice by the attorneys in Yavapai County to serve as a member of the Arizona State Bar Board of Governors, the governing board for all attorneys in Arizona. He served on the Board of

Governors for a total of six years.

He also served, upon periodic request of the Arizona Court of Appeals, as Judge Pro Tempore of that Court of Appeals.

Over the years, Ray provided service to various local organizations. He served as Chair of the Acker Trust Fund for the City of Prescott for approximately 11 years, having been appointed to that position by four Prescott City Mayors. He was the president of the local chapter of the American Heart Association. He served on the Board of Directors of the Handicapped Children's Development Association and served on the Board of Directors of the Yavapai College Foundation. He also taught for a period at the "old" Prescott College north of Prescott. In recent years, he was a volunteer for the local Trauma Intervention Program of Arizona, working at emergency scenes to provide practical and emotional support to citizens in crisis in the west side of Yavapai County. Most recently, he was an active board member and supporter of the National Alliance of the Mentally Ill (NAMI), as he worked to better understand the neurological effects of the traumatic brain injuries he had endured after suffering a cardiac arrest and other significant physical setbacks in recent years.

Ray was a co-founder of the Bank of Prescott in the early 1980's, was a stockholder, and served on the Bank's Board of Directors. Ray was proud and pleased to have had the opportunity to serve many clients and to be a member of the legal profession, with its many challenges and opportunities. He enjoyed reflecting on his early years in Prescott when the Superior Court, the Justice Court, the County Attorney's Office, the Sheriff's Office, the Yavapai County Jail, the Recorder's Office, the Treasurer's Office, the Board of Supervisor's Office, the Assessor's Office, and the Probation Office were all located in one place in the downtown Yavapai County Courthouse. Hard to believe now, but those were fond memories for Ray.

Ray wanted it stated that he was most proud and pleased to have had the opportunity to have worked in his private law practice with his son, Clint, for 11+ years, before health issues forced Ray to reduce his practice. That, according to Ray, was the best part of his legal career.

Away from work, Ray thoroughly enjoyed many challenging hikes in the Grand Canyon with friends through the 1970's and later with his sons. He was also an avid runner, having completed several marathons and countless shorter races around the Southwest. When a back injury ended his running and hiking days, he dove headfirst into weight training and other fitness activities, and managed to maintain his strong physical condition into his late 60's.

Ray's family would like to publicly thank three very special people in Ray's life--former employees John Peters and Sharon McComack, and Mary Peters, John's wife. They were truly Ray's guardian angels, providing their never-ending support to him. During the last difficult years of his life, Ray battled with a body that was failing physically and the mental

challenges resulting from traumatic brain injury. John, Sharon and Mary demonstrated the physical embodiment of Christ's love. They will always hold a special place in our hearts for the love and support they gave Dad during the last five years.

In lieu of flowers, it is requested that a donation be made in Ray's memory to the Yavapai Food Bank or the local Salvation Army.

Private services will be held. Interment of Ray's ashes, at the Prescott VA Cemetery, will follow at a later date.

Comments



“ Ray has been a delightful patient of mine since 2008, he is not only a patient of mine but also a friend. We are very saddened to hear of your recent loss and would like to express our sincere condolences to you and your family. Dr. Michele Bibeau and staff.

staff - April 11, 2014 at 02:05 PM



“ I worked for Mr. Brown and Mr. Boyle in their law offices in 1967, and I have to say it was the best job I ever had. Ray was a most understanding, knowledgeable boss and truly cared about the practice. I learned a great deal from him. Years later, I needed help with my Mother's affairs, and turned to Ray. He made the experience for my Mother so comforting and understandable, it made us both very grateful. I know he will be missed, and send my deepest sympathies to his family. Sharon Potter Christy.

Sharon Potter Christy - April 11, 2014 at 09:45 AM



“ Here's to Ray Brown, a fine lawyer, a wonderful person, and a dear old friend. I became acquainted with Ray in 1971 when Shannon and I returned to Prescott to live and raise our children. In fact, it was through Ray and Jim Boyle that I learned of office space next to theirs in the building at the corner of Cortez and Union Streets above Goldwaters. I started my law practice there. We shared many great times together thereafter.
P.G. Rosenblatt



P.G. Rosenblatt - April 10, 2014 at 04:44 PM



“ I worked for Boyle & Brown way back when. I feel it was an honor to have known two special men. They both touched my life and left me with fond memories. I'm sure they're working together once again - past the Golden Gates.

RIP, Ray

Linda (Collier) Gonzales

Linda (Collier) Gonzales - April 10, 2014 at 03:02 PM



“ Kevin Doyle, MD lit a candle in memory of Mr. Raymond Winfield Brown Jr.



Kevin Doyle, MD - April 10, 2014 at 12:32 AM



“ Clinton Alan Brown was added to the Family Tree.

Brenda Brown - April 08, 2014 at 10:54 PM



“ Ray Brown and family,
Ray was our attorney for 30 years. You always were available and ready to give us the best help and advice when we were in business. Ray was there for me when my husband passed. Thank you Ray for all you have done for me and many others.

Pat Tranter - April 09, 2014 at 03:22 PM



“ Until we meet again...Knowing and working with Ray was truly an honor and I am proud to have had the pleasure. Few men shine so brightly in life. He put his heart in all that he did and touched many lives, My heartfelt condolences go out to the family for your loss. There is much to celebrate in his memory.

Duane Famas

Duane Famas - April 10, 2014 at 11:07 AM



“ Sorry to learn of Ray's death. We go back to the days of 1960 at Notre Dame. He was one of a kind and I remember him with fondness.

JoAnn Marutz

JoAnn Marutz - August 30, 2016 at 03:18 PM