

NO PHOTO    Brown, Lawrence H 'Larry'

Midland, MI

381<sup>st</sup> Amph Combat Reg

Larry was born Feb. 7, 1924, in the same Davenport, Iowa, hospital where Cary Grant later died.

Larry was the only son of Ninette (Robb) Brown and Lawrence T. Brown. He married A. Marivene Millett at the First Baptist Church of Rock Island, Ill, Aug. 20, 1947.

Larry graduated from Rock Island Senior High School and took infantry basic training at Camp Fannin, Texas, during World War II. He entered the Army Specialized Training Program at the University of Wisconsin in 1943. When that program was terminated, he served in the 381st Amphibious Combat Regiment of the 96th Infantry Division on Leyte and Samar, Philippines, and Okinawa. He was discharged in January 1946 as sergeant, machine-gun squad leader, and was awarded the Bronze Star with Valor Device and Citation, the Purple Heart, the Combat Infantry Badge, two battle stars plus and amphibious assault arrowhead, and the Philippine Liberation medal with two battle stars.

He earned a bachelor of arts degree in chemistry at Augustana College (Ill.) where he was president of Beta Omega Sigma fraternity. Then he taught mathematics at an intermediate high school for one year before entering the University of Illinois Graduate School. He earned a master science degree in organic chemistry, and was a research assistant to Dr. Carl S. Marvel for the U.S. Office of Rubber Research. Marivene and Larry then moved to Midland in 1951, where their three children were reared.

He conducted and engaged in research on silicone-modified organic resins and coatings intermediates for 31.5 years at Dow Corning, retiring in 1982 as senior project chemist. He had been a monitor for the J. S. Long Fellowship of the Paint Research Institute, chairman of the Midland Coatings Society, and authored technical chapters including the definitive review of silicone resins for the Treatise on Coatings. He also authored papers on coating, presented conference lectures, and was issued at least 11 U. S. and foreign patents.

In 1985, after retirement, he became a regulatory compliance consultant to Dow Corning under five contracts ending in 1995. Larry's eclectic interests are illustrated by the organizations to which he had belonged, First Baptist Church, where he served as certified lay preacher, moderator, church school and Bethel teacher, cub scout leader, and chairman of the deacons, missions, and Christian education boards, plus many other offices; American Chemical Society; Sigma Xi, the Research Society of America; American Scientific Affiliation; American Meteorological Society; the Mole Day Society; Sons and Daughters of Pioneer Rivermen; SPERDVAC (old radio); the Vic and Sade club, Sons of the Desert (Laurel & Hardy); 96th Infantry Division Association; Mackinac Island association; Stratford (Ont.) Shakespearean Society; county chairman of the Midland Migrant Ministry and board member of the

Michigan Migrant Ministry; Midland Jaycees; board member and teacher at Mills Community Mission; several local charitable and cultural societies. He had tutored six students for the Literacy Council, was a short-term driver for Meals-on-Wheels, and a board member of Midland Area Homes. He was an avid indoors man, collector, and a computer pioneer.

His parents preceded him in death.

Lawrence loved his wife; a son, Matthew R. (Kay Elizabeth Waldo) Brown of Ft. Wayne, Ind., daughters, Claudia M. (Thomas F. Hanf) Brown of E. Lansing and Laura G. (David F.) McGuire of Mount Pleasant; plus grandchildren, Lydia G. Brown, Timothy J. Brown and Joseph F. McGuire. Lawrence H. Brown, 83, of Midland, has traveled to his permanent abode.

He died on Thursday, May 30, 2007 at his home. A memorial service will be celebrated at First Baptist Church, 915 E. Sugnet Road, on Saturday, June 2, 2007, at 11 a.m. Pastor John Dick will officiate. Lawrence's family will receive friends at the Ware-Smith-Woolever Funeral Home, 1200 W. Wheeler St., on Friday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. and at the church on Saturday from 10 a.m. until time of service. Lawrence's ashes will be buried at Memorial Park Cemetery in Rock Island, Ill.