



## Emma Stewart Brown

April 20, 1928 - December 18, 2020

Emma Laura Stewart Brown (Aunt Emma) (age 92) was born in White Stone, South Carolina (Spartanburg County) on April 20, 1928 to the late Charlie Stewart and the late Lucy Johnson Stewart. Emma was raised the 8th of nine children. In the order of their birth, the family consisted of: Millie Stewart Land (1915-2009), Walter (Jack) Stewart (1917-1966), Willie (Sleepy) Stewart (1919-1991), Isaac (Ike) Stewart (1920-2002), Charles (Bo) Stewart (1921-1991), Maggie Stewart Rooths (1922-1993), Joseph (JB) Stewart (1926-1988), [Emma Stewart Brown (1928-2020)] and Sallie Stewart Whiting (1930-2008).

Emma joined Westminster Presbyterian Church in South Carolina at an early age. Some of her early, fondest memories were of climbing trees on the family's land, spending hours picking and eating fresh fruit, out of view, while spying on her siblings, and then being chastised for curiously not having an appetite for supper.

She graduated from Carver High School, in Spartanburg, South Carolina in 1946. She left home that fall to complete one year of study at Coulter Junior College in Cheraw, South Carolina. She then transferred to Grady Memorial Hospital School of Nursing in Atlanta, Georgia the following year. She found nursing studies to be rigorous but rewarding. Unfortunately, her enjoyment was short-lived, when after 6 months of study, a fellow classmate committed suicide at the school.

Emma left school to regroup, but not ready to return home, she stayed with

siblings in New York and (Baltimore) Maryland, before settling in Washington DC. Here she attended services at Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church and obtained her first government job with the Census Bureau in Suitland, Maryland as a computer operator.

In 1954, she transferred assignments to the Department of Navy, US Marine Corps in Arlington, Virginia where she continued working in computer operations. There she met her future husband, Robert (Bobby) Lewis Brown, when he joined her team in 1955. They became friends and eventually dated casually. Emma advanced to team supervisor. They married on May 12, 1962. Bobby dutifully transferred to the Department of Justice, while Emma remained with the team until her retirement from the Department of Navy in May 1983, as head of the Computer Operations Section. During her 29 years of service, she continued her education by completing numerous professional courses for career advancement and received several reports of outstanding performance, accomplishments and official commendations.

After getting married, the pair made Silver Spring, Maryland their home and Emma joined Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ in Washington, DC, where Bobby was already a member. Their devoted union lasted for 51 years, until his death on October 30, 2013. She maintained her active membership with Plymouth Congregational UCC until her passing. For many years, Emma loved to cook, grill, and host family functions. She was known within the family for preserving fruits and vegetables and making her special "chow chow" (a Southern salsa). She and Bobby loved to travel and took many road trips together with little more than a road atlas or gas station roadmap in hand. They particularly enjoyed trips to the beach in the summer, where they were happy to be joined by family and friends. She loved watching professional sports - football, basketball, baseball, even golf and tennis - and showed support to all of the DC "home teams." She also loved watching her Western "shoot 'em up" programs and her favorite soap opera, General Hospital. She read the newspaper and her bible daily. While she loved to receive flowers, she would always look forward to seeing her roses bloom in

her yard each spring.

Emma passed peacefully on December 18, 2020 while residing at Sycamore Acres Assisted Living in Derwood, Maryland. She always showed love to family and friends. Although Emma and Bobby did not have children, she leaves to cherish her fond memories a host of nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, other family members and friends who will miss her dearly. Emma was preceded in death by her parents, siblings, and husband. Although Aunt Emma may be considered the "last tree" in part of our forest, the forest will continue to bear fruit. Let us share in the fond memories of the aunts and uncles we had, as we, the nieces and nephews, have now become the aunts and uncles of the present time. Hopefully, the younger generation will look up to us as we did to our aunts and uncles.

Farewell Aunt Emma, your parents, your siblings and your husband, all await you!

# Cemetery Details

## Fort Lincoln Cemetery

3401 Bladensburg Rd  
Brentwood, MD 20722  
(301) 864-5090

# Previous Events

## Viewing

DEC 30. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Plymouth Congregational United Church  
5301 North Capitol Street NE  
Washington, DC 20011

## Funeral service

DEC 30. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Plymouth Congregational United Church  
5301 North Capitol Street NE  
Washington, DC 20011

# Tribute Wall



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Emma Stewart Brown.* ”



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December 29, 2020 at 08:10 AM