



Charles Raymond Brown

June 4, 1951 - March 26, 2024

Charles Raymond Brown, 72, of rural Ottumwa, died Tuesday, March 26, 2024, at the Hospice of Wapello and Davis County Hospice House in Ottumwa. He was born June 4, 1951, in Ottumwa, Iowa, the son of Charles and Patricia Thomas Brown. His education began in a one-room schoolhouse that was located on his family's farm. He completed his schooling, up until third grade, at this country school and then went on to graduate from Fremont High School in 1969. Following graduation, he decided to pursue a career in animal science at Iowa State University. He completed his degree from ISU in a Bachelor of Science in 1973. On March 31, 1983, he was united in marriage to Kimberly Hedge at the United Methodist Church in Fremont. A lifelong learner, Charles pursued a master's degree in business Ag at Iowa State University. Following school, he returned home and continued his farming operation, affirming his legacy as a leading pork producer in the state of Iowa. In addition to his farming operation, Charles worked for many years as a Agriculture Business Consultant. Prior to his employment with the Iowa State Extension, he spent 25 years working with the Iowa Farm Bureau as a Farm Business Service Administrator and has always maintained his ownership and operation of Agri-Financial Services. He dedicated his professional career to providing farm financial consulting, income tax preparation, and farm business management services for generations of family farming operations. Charles had a passion for agriculture; he loved the work, challenges and culture of farming families and their communities. He understood the family farm way of

life and the value of being a resource to farm families and businesses for operations management and estate planning. His eagerness to assist extended beyond local farmers. This included traveling to Russia, where he dedicated himself to aiding agricultural businesses in adapting to a different economic system. He also spent time in Louisiana helping shrimp farmers streamline their operations to ensure a future for their operations.

Charles welcomed any opportunity to share his expertise and research with the Ag community; he was a contributing author to many farm journals and a guest on various agriculture radio programs throughout his career. At his core, he was a farmer and wanted nothing more than to be a good steward of the land and its resources. In 2014, he joined the Iowa State Extension office in Mahaska County. He served as a Farm Management Specialist for 13 SE counties, providing education and consultation on farm financial management. He cherished this position and the relationships he was able to cultivate through his work at the extension office. He always said that he would 'never retire', and in some ways, he was right. True to his word and faithful to his passions, he had his last appointment with a client on March 23, just days before he passed. Charles gave of his time and talents to many agricultural, civic, and religious organizations. He had served on the Wapello County Extension Council, several boards at Iowa State University, Center of Agriculture Law and Taxation Board, and the Iowa Grain Quality Initiative Committee. He was also an active member of the Fremont Community Church where he served for over a decade as treasurer. He enjoyed passing his love for pork production and swine to his four daughters. He cherished the hours spent helping all four daughters raise and show their pigs and horses for FFA and 4-H. Charles dedicated his life to ensuring the profitability and longevity of family farming operations, preserving land for future generations, and instilling his work ethic & values in his four daughters. In his free time, he shared his love for travel and the outdoors with his entire family. He used up each of his nine lives: one of them by surviving pancreatic cancer for over 25 years. He also begrudgingly retired early from riding his motorcycle, but could

be found reading westerns, especially Louis L'Amour books, walking his acreage with his two dogs, Snoopy & Pepper, or stealing a nap just about anywhere. Annually, Charles loved to fish in Canada at Stanley's Resort. Every summer he looked forward to his week-long escape to Eagle Lake, sleeping in a tent right outside of Buzzard's cabin and dodging mosquitos. His family includes his wife of 40 years, Kimberly Brown of rural Ottumwa; four daughters, Danielle (Gil) Wukitsch of Maple Park, Illinois, Melissa (Michael Nguyen) Brown of Clive, Kirsten (Scott) Radke of Boone, and Arielle Brown of Ann Arbor, Michigan; five grandchildren, Ava Wukitsch, Grant Wukitsch, Cora Nguyen, Iris Nguyen, and Raymond Radke; a sister, Michelle (Kevin) Waggoner of Donnellson, Iowa; two brothers in law, Kevin (Jane) Hedge and Mark (Cindy) Hedge all of rural Fremont; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; and a granddaughter, Riley Louise Radke.

Funeral services will be held Tuesday, April 2, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. in the Fremont Community Church in Fremont with Pastor Kevin Carter officiating. Burial will be in the Cedar Township Cemetery south of Fremont. The Fremont Funeral Chapel is in charge of the arrangements. Visitation will begin Monday after 12 noon in the Fremont Community Church in Fremont and the family will be at the CHURCH from 4-7 Monday evening to greet friends and relatives. Memorial may be made to Iowa State University Extension and Outreach/Mahaska County

Cemetery Details

Cedar Township Memorial Cemetery

Fremont, IA 52561

Previous Events

Open Visitation

APR 1. 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Fremont Community Church
526 E Main St
Fremont, IA 52561
(641) 933-4731

Family Visitation

APR 1. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Fremont Community Church
Fremont, IA 52561

Funeral Service

APR 2. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Fremont Community Church
526 E Main St
Fremont, IA 52561
(641) 933-4731

Burial

APR 2. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Cedar Township Memorial Cemetery
Fremont, IA 52561

Tribute Wall

RM

“ Randy M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Charles Raymond Brown.

Randy M. - April 02, 2024 at 01:39 PM

IR

“ Ian R. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Charles Raymond Brown.

Ian R. - April 01, 2024 at 12:10 PM

GJ

“ Greg J. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Charles Raymond Brown.

Greg J. - April 01, 2024 at 11:00 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Charles Raymond Brown.



April 01, 2024 at 10:00 AM

LO

“ Lynne and David Olson purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of Charles Raymond Brown.



Lynne and David Olson - March 31, 2024 at 11:28 PM

LO

“ Lynne and David Olson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Charles Raymond Brown.

Lynne and David Olson - March 31, 2024 at 11:28 PM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Charles Raymond Brown.



March 31, 2024 at 06:59 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Charles Raymond Brown.



March 31, 2024 at 12:54 PM

TW

“ *The Whites planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Charles Raymond Brown.*

The Whites - March 31, 2024 at 12:54 PM

DM

“ *David Moore lit a candle in memory of Charles Raymond Brown*



David Moore - March 31, 2024 at 11:26 AM

JJ

“ *My cousin, Charles Ray, and I really enjoyed each other's company when young and growing up. He and Michelle spent many fun filled days together with my two brothers (Mike and Curtis) and sister (Joyce) and myself. So many stories to tell! Aunt Pat, Uncle Charlie and our Mom and Dad loved having cookouts at their farm, while us kids busied ourselves with a bit of mischief. Such fond memories!*

Janice Jamison - March 30, 2024 at 02:33 PM

JA

“ *Janice A. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Charles Raymond Brown.*

Janice A. - March 30, 2024 at 02:22 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Charles Raymond Brown.*



March 30, 2024 at 09:25 AM



“ *Lisa W. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Charles Raymond Brown.*

Lisa W. - March 30, 2024 at 09:22 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Charles Raymond Brown.*



March 30, 2024 at 09:09 AM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Charles Raymond Brown.*



March 30, 2024 at 09:00 AM

JF

“ Jess Carlson, Jordan Tanko, and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Charles Raymond Brown.

Jess Carlson, Jordan Tanko, and family - March 30, 2024 at 09:00 AM

TT

“ The ISU Extension Farm Management Team purchased the Lily and Rose Tribute Spray for the family of Charles Raymond Brown.



The ISU Extension Farm Management Team - March 29, 2024 at 04:48 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Charles Raymond Brown.



March 29, 2024 at 02:52 PM

SR

“ Schmitz family (Chris, Jess, Ains, & Ry) planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Charles Raymond Brown.

Schmitz family (Chris, Jess, Ains, & Ry) - March 29, 2024 at 02:52 PM



“ *Heavenly Heights Bouquet was purchased for the family of Charles Raymond Brown.*



March 29, 2024 at 02:38 PM



“ *Dick and Becky Thomas and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Charles Raymond Brown.*

Dick and Becky Thomas and Family - March 29, 2024 at 02:38 PM



“ *Erwin And Yoshiko Johnson purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Charles Raymond Brown.*



Erwin And Yoshiko Johnson - March 29, 2024 at 11:23 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Charles Raymond Brown.*



March 28, 2024 at 08:30 PM

DT

“ Doug and Sandra Thomas planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Charles Raymond Brown.

Doug and Sandra Thomas - March 28, 2024 at 08:30 PM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Charles Raymond Brown.



March 28, 2024 at 03:14 PM

RB

“ Charles was a true gentle-man. It was a privilege to be pastor to Charles & Kim and having the joy to baptize one of his grand children. Rest in the arms of the Savior.

Rev Dr Ronald C Bupp - March 28, 2024 at 03:01 PM

RL

“ Kim and family I am so saddened to see this notice. I didn't know Charles well, but over the past few summers I always enjoyed his visits to the "Tire Shop". My sincerest condolences.

Rod Lappin - March 28, 2024 at 02:13 PM



“ *This is such a loss. My deepest sympathies to Kim, girls and the whole family. I would count Charles (Charlie) as a life long friend, having been classmates at Fremont High School. Many decades beyond that, he was a trusted financial advisor as we actively farmed and later, gave wise guidance when my parents passed and the family farm was sold. He was an immensely kind, gentle and wise man.*

Marilyn Kinsinger Van Roekel - March 28, 2024 at 01:59 PM

KJ

“ *Kellie and Erica Jones purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Charles Raymond Brown.*



Kellie and Erica Jones - March 28, 2024 at 01:10 PM



“ *Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Charles Raymond Brown.*



March 28, 2024 at 12:38 PM

FF

“ *From the Nguyen family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Charles Raymond Brown.*

From the Nguyen family - March 28, 2024 at 12:38 PM

SW

“ We at William Penn University Division of Nursing and Nursing Students want to express our condolences to Dr. Kimberly Brown and her family. Charles was an amazing man, father, and husband. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

Sue Van Wyk - March 28, 2024 at 11:09 AM

BE

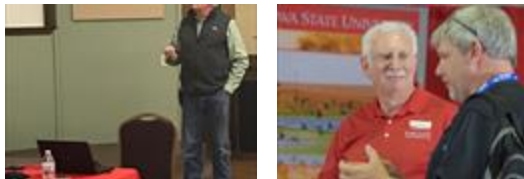
“ Bruce & Kenzie Hedge, Connie, & Elliot purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Charles Raymond Brown.



Bruce & Kenzie Hedge, Connie, & Elliot - March 28, 2024 at 10:08 AM

M4

“ 2 files added to the album ISU Extension



Mahaska 4-H - March 28, 2024 at 09:46 AM

JH

“ Charles was a special guy and I know those of us in Ag & Natural Resources Extension looked up to him. He was very kind and always wanted to help. On behalf of ANR Extension we are having 3 trees planted for him. You are in my thoughts and prayers through this difficult time.

Jay Harmon, ISU Extension

Jay Harmon - March 28, 2024 at 09:10 AM

JH

“ Jay H. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Charles Raymond Brown.

Jay H. - March 28, 2024 at 09:04 AM

IP

“ ISU Organic Ag Program purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Charles Raymond Brown.



ISU Organic Ag Program - March 28, 2024 at 08:37 AM

JF

“ John and Cindee, Schnekloth Farms purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Charles Raymond Brown.



John and Cindee, Schnekloth Farms - March 28, 2024 at 08:26 AM

MW

“ Michelle W. planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Charles Raymond Brown.

Michelle W. - March 28, 2024 at 12:44 AM

ST

“ Southeast Iowa Extension Ag Team purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Charles Raymond Brown.



Southeast Iowa Extension Ag Team - March 27, 2024 at 11:39 PM



“ Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Charles Raymond Brown.



March 27, 2024 at 09:03 PM

YF

“ Your Hedrick Christian Church Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Charles Raymond Brown.

Your Hedrick Christian Church Family - March 27, 2024 at 09:03 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Charles Raymond Brown.



March 27, 2024 at 08:41 PM