

## Dinwiddie County

### 2025 Hometown Hero: Anthony D. Brown, Sr.



Anthony D. Brown, Sr. was born on October 23, 1951 to the late John T. Brown and Thelma Cooley Brown of Chesterfield, Virginia. He is the youngest of four children. His siblings include Steve A. Brown, Patsy A. Jones, and deceased brother, John T. Brown, Jr.

Mr. Brown is married to Cynthia Gholson Brown, and the couple is preparing to celebrate their 54<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. He is the father of two sons, Anthony D. Brown, Jr., of Charlotte, North Carolina, and Nathan L. Brown of Wilson, North Carolina. He also has one daughter-in-law, Kelly B. Brown and three grandchildren – Tyler Harrell, Gabriella Brown, and Isabella Brown. Throughout his life, Mr. Brown has been honored to fulfill the role of provider, teacher and protector of his family, as he showered them with unconditional love.

Anthony Brown was educated in the Chesterfield County Public School System, graduating in 1970 from Matoaca High School. In 1986 he earned an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Mortuary Science from John Tyler Community College (now Brightpoint).

Over the years, Mr. Brown has enjoyed a variety of vocations. He worked for Mary Jane Shoes, Brown and Williamson Tobacco Company, and Pinkerton Security. He also worked for a lawn care company and was a service station attendant. Mr. Brown retired from Reynolds Metals (now Alcoa) in 2001 after a 30-year career as a foreman, machinist

and local union representative. Throughout his career he also worked with the W.L. Fields Funeral Home, James M. Wilkerson Funeral Establishment, Inc., William Bland and Son Funeral Home, and Hawkes Funeral Home.

Mr. Brown confessed Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior at Shiloh Baptist Church in Chesterfield, Virginia, at the age of 12. In the late 1970's he moved his church membership to Mt. Calvary Baptist Church in DeWitt, Virginia, where he continues to be a faithful and devoted member. On February 13, 2005, he was ordained as Deacon by Rev. Dr. Robert J.N. Jones, Jr. He is deeply involved in church activities, holding numerous leadership positions including Usher's Ministry, Diaconate Ministry, Sunday School Teacher, and Brotherhood. He has served as Church Treasurer and works with Vacation Bible School, Men's Choir, Sanctuary Choir, and as a youth mentor.

Mr. Brown's favorite scripture passage is Romans 12, which instructs us to be a living sacrifice with humble service in the body of Christ, and to practice love in action. The passage concludes with "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." – Romans 12:21 His favorite song is "At the Cross". Mr. Brown has a reverence for God and is a firm believer in the power of prayer. He takes pride in doing things decently and in order. He loves people, conversing and giving his heart and soul to his family, friends, and community.

Mr. Brown has also been a faithful and active member of his community. In 1980, he was one of four residents who advocated for a lower speed limit on Rt. 740. He is a former member of the Dinwiddie County Volunteer Fire Department, former member and Worshipful Master of the C.V. Wilson Masonic Lodge #317, and one of the organizers of the Order of Knights of Pythagoras, the Masonic Affiliation for young boys.

He is currently a member of the Dinwiddie Christmas Sharing Foundation, Inc., the Dinwiddie Diamonds, the Dinwiddie Triad, and the Dinwiddie County Emergency Relief Program (Dinwiddie Food Bank). He is the Chaplain of the Virginia Baptist State Convention Deacon & Deaconess Auxiliary, Treasurer of the United Churches of Dinwiddie County and Vicinity, and Assistant Corresponding Secretary of the Ushers Union of Petersburg, Hopewell and Vicinity. He has also organized an Adopt-a-Highway program.

In his free time, Mr. Brown enjoys traveling, cooking, fishing, spoiling and caring for his grandchildren, driving, sports, and reading the Holy Bible. He also enjoys mentoring, engaging and serving his community, family, and church.

Anthony D. Brown, Sr. is committed to serving people, and carrying out his Heavenly Father's business.