



## **SMSGT Robert Sammie Lee Brown USAF (Ret)**

January 22, 1954 - November 25, 2019

SMSGT Robert Sammie Brown USAF (Ret.), 65, of Summerville, husband of Leonora A. Cabute, passed away on Monday, November 25, 2019 at his residence.

Family and friends are invited to attend his visitation on Sunday, December 1, 2019 from 6 to 8 o'clock at James A. Dyal Funeral Home. A funeral service will be held on Monday, December 2, 2019 at 11 o'clock at James A. Dyal Funeral Home Chapel. Burial to follow at 2 o'clock at Beaufort National Cemetery, 601 Boundary Street Beaufort, SC 29902.

Flowers will be accepted.

Robert was born on January 22, 1954 in Beaufort, SC son of Mrs. Ophelia Alston Brown. Robert was honored with a key to the city of Summerville as a model citizen. He loved fishing, traveling and watching football. Robert mostly loved spending time with family.

Survivors including his wife Leonora are: four children: Latonya Brown Young (Jodane Watson) of McDonough, GA, Robert Brown, Jr. of Watertown, NY , Chazz Brown of Summerville and Lara Vincenti (Christian) of Pensacola, FL; grandchildren: Keason Watson, Keshaan Brown, Tashi Brown, Dequan Brown, Jaquell Brown and Chassidy Brown; siblings: Leroy Chrisolm of

Beaufort, Elijah Heyward of Beaufort, Anna Harmon (Cedrick) of Columbia,  
Leon Chrisolm of Beaufort, and Cassie Mae Broussaid of Beaufort.

A memorial message may be written to the family by visiting our website at [www.jamesadyal.com](http://www.jamesadyal.com).

ARRANGEMENTS BY JAMES A. DYAL FUNERAL HOME, 303 SOUTH  
MAIN STREET, SUMMERVILLE, SC 29483 (843)873-4040.

# Cemetery Details

## Beaufort National Cemetery

1601 Boundary Street  
Beaufort, SC 29902

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 1. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

James A. Dyal Funeral Home  
303 S. Main Street  
Summerville, SC 29483  
(843) 873-4040  
<https://www.jamesadyal.com>

## Service

DEC 2. 11:00 AM (ET)

James A. Dyal Funeral Home Chapel  
303 S. Main Street  
Summerville, SC 29483

# Tribute Wall



“ James A Dyal Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of SMSGT Robert Sammie Lee Brown USAF (Ret)



James A Dyal Funeral Home - December 01, 2019 at 08:28 AM

ES

*Sgt. Brown was more than a teacher to me and my siblings. He was a father figure always giving us guidance & loving words of encouragement & great advice. He treated us like we were his own children- we are forever grateful for him. We are filled with sorrow to learn of his passing. Sgt. Brown was a great man & public servant. He will be forever remembered by my family and deeply missed. Our condolences to his family. Sgt. Brown, Thank You for your service to our country, our community, & for being an awesome role model. GOD bless You & may GOD continue to comfort your family through their grief.*

Erica Spann - January 02, 2020 at 09:08 PM



“ SMSGT Robert Sammie Lee Brown USAF (Ret)

September 29, 2022 at 10:11 AM

JO

“ SMSGT Brown was such an inspiration to everyone. He always pushed his students to be the best and wanted the best for them. My condolences to the family and know that he will be missed.



*Josalyn King- Fort Dorchester c/o 2010*

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**Josalyn** - December 03, 2019 at 07:49 PM

VG

“ My heart is completely broken. My son and daughter attended Fort Dorchester, they both had the privilege and honor to have SMSGT Brown. Everyone who came in contact with him was blessed by his kindness and respect. My memory SMSGT Brown at Pass and Review in 2009 he embraced us like we were family. We took pictures, I pray I'm able to find them. SMSGT Brown would always call my son Thorne; the funny thing is his name tag said T. Horne 😂 . My daughter was privileged to have SMSGT Brown in 2019; he wrote outstanding letters of references for her and even attended her college reveal party. SMSGT BROWN, although we are saddened by your departure you left a legacy with not only your students at FORT, but with parents as well. I pray that the ancestors meet you on the other side and you find rest with them. We love you SMSGT BROWN, Ase”

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**Valerie Gilliard-Anthony** - December 02, 2019 at 11:19 PM

TS

“ My condolences go out to the entire family. I'm still shook by this as I first meet this great man in August of 1993 at Fort Dorchester High in the class that I signed up for that forever changed my life...AFJROTC. Sgt. Robert S. L. Brown initially became my instructor that Freshmen year but in a matter of months he became my mentor and over the 4 years a dear friend as well. He poured so much into me and challenged what was already in me. He realized that I was a thinker and could lead. He was the first that saw the gift of leadership in me. As a freshmen he started to mold and mentor me for leadership at the program. He was successful in doing so as at the end of my junior year the transition happened and I was leading the cadets. This is just a snap shot of what he did to help advance the students in and out the class room.

*I want to thank the family for sharing this man with us over the years. You should be proud of all the lives that he has impacted over the years. I really wanted him to meet my children and tell a story or two about that time. This is a tough one to take but God must have been ready for his son.*

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**Tremayne LeVar Smith** - November 30, 2019 at 08:35 PM

MA

“ Bobby, it was great seeing you in July 2019 at our 1972 Class 65th Birthday Celebration. Our Deepest Condolences To The Brown Family. "HOLD TO GOD'S UNCHANGING HANDS FOR COMFORT & STRENGTH!"  
Mary Ann(Evans)Johnson & Beaufort High School Class Of 1972(Beaufort, SC) 🙏

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**Mary Ann(Evans)Johnson** - November 29, 2019 at 11:51 PM

PM

“ You will be dearly missed Sgt. Brown by all the lives you’ve touched at Fort Dorchester H.S. both in and out of JROTC. Thank you for your service. God bless and comfort his family during this time...

Paisley M. - November 28, 2019 at 06:56 AM

JD

“ All of our love and prayers are sent to you and family. Lived here my whole life. He was a great man. Will be dearly missed. The Mathews, Sweat, and Dube family's 🥲🥲🥲🥲🥲

Jennifer Mathews Sweat Dube - November 27, 2019 at 03:38 PM

RF

“ SSMST Brown was Very Dear to the Fredlaw Family he will be Missed . He also was a Excellent Instructor at Fort.

Rose Fredlaw - November 27, 2019 at 11:34 AM

DP

“ My condolences to the Brown Family. He was my colleague and friend and almost daily visitor to the media center at Fort Dorchester High School. I missed him when he left. He cared about his students and was passionate about the military and the ROTC program. I occasionally saw him at the Joint Base Charleston Commissary and he always asked about my son (a former student). Take heart that he made a difference in the lives of so many while serving his country in the air force and as an educator. He will be missed. Got bless, my friend

Dr Sandy Parker - November 27, 2019 at 10:31 AM



“ *SMSGT Brown...Thanks for your service to our country and your devotion to our children. Thanks for being a good role model for the black boys at our school and for challenging mediocrity. Rest easy, Sir. This salute is for you.*

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**Brian Heyward** - November 27, 2019 at 09:34 AM

PR

*SMSGT Brown you'll be miss. Thanks for the talks we had. Priscilla*

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**priscilla** - November 27, 2019 at 03:03 PM

JF

*MY HAND IS RAISED FOR MY TEACHER, A STRONG FATHER AND FIRST SGT TO ME WHO HAD A POWERFUL VOICE, A FIRM STANCE, AND STRONG HANDS WITH PLANS FOR ALL US TO HAVE A WELL MANNER FUTURE. SO LET THE VOICE BE HEARD FROM ME (R.I.P MY BROTHER I REMEMBER.*

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**Jerome frasier** - November 30, 2019 at 04:27 AM

EM

“ SMSGT BROWN WAS MY ROTC TEACHER MY 9TH GRADE YR BACK IN '99. THAT WAS MY ONLY YR IN ROTC CAUSE I CHOSE TO ACT A FOOL INSTEAD. EVEN THO I WAS NO LONGER IN HIS CLASS SMSGT BROWN STEAD ON ME UP UNTIL GRADUATION. THAT WAS THE ONLY MAN THAT COULD FUSS AT ME AND I STILL FELT THE LOVE THRU HIS WORDS. I JUST WANT YOU TO KNOW SMSGT BROWN THAT I STRAIGHTENED MYSELF OUT I AM VERY SUCCESSFUL MARRIED WOMEN WHOSE HUSBAND IS THE MILITARY, HAVE 3 BOYS AND MY OLDEST IS GRADUATING FROM FORT THIS YR. THANK YOU FOR ALWAYS BELIEVING IN ME. REST EASY..... THIS IS A HARD ONE RIGHT HERE 😞



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**Erica Mitchell** - November 27, 2019 at 08:22 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet* was purchased for the family of SMSGT Robert Sammie Lee Brown USAF (Ret).



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November 27, 2019 at 08:09 AM



“ SMSGT Brown , You left a major impact on your students at Fort Dorchester . I'm glad I had the chance to have met you . My condolences to the Brown family. I pray that you find comfort through out the holidays . May God be with you all .

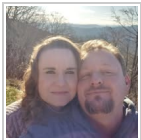
C/O 2000

R.I.P. ❤️

- Simone Johnson

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**Simone Johnson** - November 27, 2019 at 07:26 AM



“ SMSGT Brown was a great veteran, awesome man and devoted educator. I met him during ROTC and he helped me in many ways to become who I am today. Thank you SMSGT Brown for everything.

Till Vahalla

Semper Fi

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**Ronald Swackhamer** - November 27, 2019 at 06:48 AM



“ SMSGT Brown, was such an incredible mentor, instructor , teacher and the list goes on. I met SMSGT Brown in my 9th grade year at Fort, he really pushed his cadets and build us everyday and I will always respect him for that! He will truly be missed!

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**Ecoliette Raysor** - November 27, 2019 at 02:56 AM

MB

“ I am proud to call Sgt. Brown a friend, and to have served as a faculty member with him at Fort Dorchester. He was an awesome addition. to our exemplary ROTC program! Instructors like him caused the AFJROTC program to win all the awards they won. More importantly, he made the students of our school feel like award-winners because they were all important enough to him to speak to and to care to listen to their words.

*He expected the best from everyone he encountered. I loved to watch him teach young men how to carry themselves like gentlemen, and was not afraid to say, “pull up your pants,” or “Get that comb off of your head!” He made us all laugh, and he built relationships with everyone he encountered.*

*I can only imagine the impact he had upon the students who were in the ROTC program and in his classes! I was impressed with how he spoke to all the kids during our time together on lunch duty, and when we were clearing the hallways sending kids to class. I am sure when he really knew the students that his words were even more direct, and always filled with high expectations. I pray that he is looking down on us and expecting our best to be presented wherever we go!*

*My condolences to his family. I am so sorry for your loss. He was a man of integrity and an awesome role model at our school.*

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**Michelle Barnum** - November 26, 2019 at 10:55 PM

WD

“ Sgt brown will always be one oerson who influence me to strive and be a better person then i was as a young child growing up. I remember he sat me in the front of class in my row which meant alot to me cause the guy in the front row, was in charge of that row....made me feel important ya know lol. R.i.p srgt Brown

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**Wesley Dallas** - November 26, 2019 at 09:59 PM

MW

“ So very sad to hear this about SMSgt Brown. It was an honor to work with him @Fort Dorchester. He was a great influence for his students and was always helpful in reminding students how to be respectful. Friendly to all of his co-workers.  
Thoughts and prayers for the family.

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**Michelle Williams** - November 26, 2019 at 09:53 PM

HD

Sgt. Brown and I were great friends at Fort Dorchester High School (FDHS). We met early mornings within the teacher lounge almost daily; we always gave each other early greetings; and he had a way of "looking good," evincing to young men how to dress appropriately and to young women how young men should carry themselves. We both were stern with our students, particularly disruptive male students. Sgt. Brown was a disciplinarian, a role model, and most of all a "good man." Our days at FDHS will never be forgotten. I will miss him dearly...

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**Henry E. Darby** - November 27, 2019 at 12:31 AM

LJ

“ SMSGT. Brown was the best mentor I ever had. He could make you laugh and make you smile, when most of us had very little to smile about. He taught ever cadet that no matter where you came from or who you was, you last name was always right. He pushed us to our limits and beyond to make ever cadet his warriors. I am forever grateful and forever proud to be a cadet under SMSgt. BROWN

*Charlie Flight '04*

*Larry Edwards*

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**Larry Donell Edwards Jr** - November 26, 2019 at 09:11 PM

LJ

*Every\**

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**Larry Donell Edwards Jr** - November 26, 2019 at 09:14 PM



Your\*

Larry Donell Edwards Jr - November 26, 2019 at 09:18 PM



*Sgt Brown didn't care if you were a student or not. He guided you and cared for you all the same. He even made detention a good time, betting on fantasy football teams and listening to teenaged girls complain about boys and unfair dress codes.*

*Rest in peace, sir. You've earned it. To his family, I am so so sorry for your loss. We all loved him dearly, but I'm sure you loved him even more.*

*Elizabeth (Casto) Murray, Class of 2005*

Elizabeth - November 26, 2019 at 10:07 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of SMSGT Robert Sammie Lee Brown USAF (Ret).*



November 26, 2019 at 08:47 PM

GP

“ *SMSGT Brown was a friend to anyone who needed a friend at Fort Dorchester High School.*



*As a retired man, he outworked high school varsity athletes in the gym, including myself! He gave an open invite to anyone who wanted to train with him. After leaving each workout, the student would always walk away stronger - both physically and spiritually.*

*SMSGT Brown looked you in the eye when he spoke to you. He gripped your hand firmly when he shook your hand. And you felt his positive spirit when you stood next to him.*

*My condolences to the family and friends of SMSGT Brown. God bless.*

*Geno Porter  
Fort Dorchester c/o 2010*

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**Geno Porter** - November 26, 2019 at 08:18 PM

MB

*Beautifully written Geno and so true!*

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**Michelle Barnum** - November 26, 2019 at 10:37 PM

KM

“ Sgt. Brown- seeing this article hurts me to say the least. I’m just honored to say that you made a huge impact in my life. You taught me the value of integrity and good character. You showed us all a respect and love that changed the lives of every student you encountered. You made sure to keep us on our toes in class as well as in the hallways. I’m praying for your family during this time. Rest In Peace, Sir. You will be forever ingrained in FDHS. With love ❤️

Katherine McLemore - November 26, 2019 at 07:56 PM

AB

“ SMSGT is a great inspiration. He encouraged young men and women to be the best they can be. Thank you sir for your service. Your guidance has forever made an imprint on the man I am today.

Aj Brown - November 26, 2019 at 07:16 PM

SA

“ Sgt. Brown you will forever live on in my memories as a great teacher who always believed in me and expected the best. You will be missed.

Sonia Ala - November 26, 2019 at 07:06 PM

BJ

We haven't met you yet but thru your wife Oni seems like you were too closed to us. I do regret and procrastinate too much for your wife's invite to be closer to you. Words couldn't express my eagerness to meet you. The Facebook made us closer to one another. Our deepest condolence to Oni and may God bless you.

Bill and Marilyn johnson - November 30, 2019 at 03:33 PM

JB

“ Sgt. Brown, thank you for the wisdom and advice you’ve imparted into me over the past 4 years!

Jordan Brown - November 26, 2019 at 06:58 PM



“ Sgt. Brown was a wonderful man. I have such great memories of him from FDHS, hollering my last name across the school, for reasons good or bad. He was passionate about his job and life, and I’m so sorry to hear of his passing.

Erika Murphy - November 26, 2019 at 06:41 PM

NS

“ What an amazing man—taught me and my big brother a lot. I still remember how he’d always ask to shake my hand because he loved my firm grip. Thanks for the lessons Sgt. Brown, you touched so many lives and helped me through the loss of my brother. You will be missed and always remembered fondly.

Nikki Seigler - November 26, 2019 at 06:35 PM

RC

“ He was a tough and sweet instructor in school. He was a great father so sorry for y’all a loss...



Rene Canady - November 26, 2019 at 06:35 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of SMSGT Robert Sammie Lee Brown USAF (Ret).*



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November 26, 2019 at 06:11 PM



“ *Wow where to start Sgt Brown , you was an amazing man , mentor and friend . You stayed calling my name in the Fort Dorchester hallways just to make sure I was staying out trouble and attending class , you looked out for me and everybody else ❤️ Thank you for being the man you was and always telling me to face my fears no matter what! You will be truly missed -Indigo Fisher*

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**Indigo Fisher** - November 26, 2019 at 05:56 PM



“ *Wow man that's was my guy I know I had drive him crazy he definitely just wanted the best for us DEFINITELY A GREAT MAN RIP SGT*

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**taije griffin student from fort dorchest** - November 26, 2019 at 05:40 PM

RW

“ Sgt Brown was such an amazing, caring, and fun guy. His laugh was so contagious and his pat on the back was always reassuring. He was one of the first teachers who made me feel welcomed when I moved to SC from Italy. I could always count on him to lend a listening ear and to give great, sound advice back in return. Years after high school, he took the time to talk to me and my husband at our apartment. I will always remember the smile on his face when he realized that my husband and I were the 2 former jrotc students that everyone thought should get married, were married now. I will miss you deeply.

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**Randi Williamson** - November 26, 2019 at 05:23 PM



“ SmSgt Brown was always a favorite, if not THE favorite teacher at Fort Dorchester High School. He always had time for his students and even students that were not in JROTC! He will be missed by so many! My love and condolences to his wife, children, grandchildren and family. Please take comfort in knowing that he touched the hearts and helped to mold so many young people!

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**Dixie James** - November 26, 2019 at 05:13 PM