



## Dr. William C. Brownson

June 27, 1928 - April 1, 2022

Funeral service livestream can be viewed here:

<https://m.youtube.com/channel/UCsNOS-ieaaF4kiObyRSbnqQ/live>

The Rev. Dr. William Clarence Brownson, Jr. entered peacefully into the presence of Jesus on April 1, 2022 in Holland, Michigan. Bill was born on June 27, 1928 in Charlotte, NC to William Clarence Brownson, Sr. and Juanita Clements Brownson. He received his A.B. from Davidson College, NC, his B.D. from Columbia Seminary, GA, and a doctorate in New Testament from Princeton Theological Seminary, NJ. Bill then served as pastor in two Reformed Church in America congregations, the first in Lodi, NJ, the second in Roseland, IL.

Bill and Helen moved to Holland, MI with their family in 1964 where Bill became Professor of Preaching at Western Theological Seminary. After seven happy years there, he became the radio preacher for Words of Hope in Grand Rapids, MI, where he finished his long and fruitful ministry in 1994. Bill's passion in life was sharing the good news of Jesus to all he met and to the world. He and Helen made several trips to countries where Words of Hope was broadcast, and experienced great joy in meeting other Christians and sharing the Gospel. Bill and Helen were active members of Christ Memorial Church in Holland.

Bill authored many books, including *The Plan Is God's* (1964), *Tried by Fire* (1972), *Distinctive Lessons from Luke* (1974), and *Do You Believe?* (1975).

He and Helen wrote *Billy and Dave: From Brokenness to Blessedness* (2006) after the death of their son, David. In his retirement years, Bill frequently preached in churches in the area, and led Bible studies and prayer groups at Freedom Village in Holland, where he and Helen spent more than 20 years until their deaths.

Bill was devoted to his wife, children, and grandchildren, a cheerleader of all their endeavors. He extended this love and interest to everyone he met, asking about their lives, families, and of course if they knew and loved Jesus. He often offered to pray with and for them, and enjoyed hearing about how God answered those prayers.

Dr. Brownson was preceded in death by his sons Billy, who died in 1977, and David, who died in 2003, his dear wife, Helen Stewart Brownson, who died in 2015, and sister Jean Vivian Brownson Ribble. Bill is survived by his sons James Brownson (Kathryn Mostrom Brownson) and Jonathan Brownson (Jeannette Shafer Brownson), grandchildren, Rachel Brownson Brazier (LJ Brazier), Anna Brownson Prinz (Mark Prinz), Benjamin Brownson, Joanna Brownson Humphries (Elizabeth Brownson Humphries), William Brownson (Michael Hairston Brownson), Samuel Brownson (Rozina Kidari), two great-grandchildren, Wren Brownson Prinz and Baby Kieren, and sister-in-law Florence Stewart Brown. He will also be dearly missed by special friend, Jayne VerLee.

The funeral will be held on May 16, 2022 at 11:00 A.M. at Christ Memorial Church in Holland, 595 Graafschap Rd. Visitation with the family will be on May 15, from 5:00 to 7:00 P.M. at the Langeland-Sterenbergh Funeral Home, 315 E. 16th St., Holland, and before the service at Christ Memorial Church, from 9:30 to 10:30 A.M. A luncheon will follow. . After local services are complete, burial will be in the Alamo Memorial Cemetery in Alamo, GA. Donations in William's honor may be made to Words of Hope, Western Theological Seminary, or Christ Memorial Church. Condolences may be left online at [www.langelandsterenbergh.com](http://www.langelandsterenbergh.com).



# Cemetery Details

## Alamo Memorial Cemetery

Alamo, GA

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY **15**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Langeland-Sterenbergh Funeral Home  
315 E 16th St  
Holland, MI 49423  
(616) 392-2306  
info@langelandsterenberg.com  
<http://langelandsterenberg.com/>

## Visitation

MAY **16**. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Christ Memorial Church  
595 Graafschap Road  
Holland, MI 49423

## Funeral Service

MAY **16**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Christ Memorial Church  
595 Graafschap Road  
Holland, MI 49423



# Tribute Wall



“ *Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes created a Rev. William Brownson Livestream in memory of Dr. William C. Brownson*



**Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes** - May 12, 2022 at 01:42 PM

RW

“ *Studying Th.M program at Western Theological Seminary in 1983-1984 was a blessing of God to me. I thanked God I took Dr. Brownson's class "Theology and Practice Of Prayer" which helped to grow in my faith. After returning to Indonesia, I was blessed by receiving his sermons thru the Words Of Hope sermon leaflets (and also of Rev. David Bast's sermons).sent continually to me. Not only to myself, but his teachings is also a blessing to many Christians in Indonesia. I missed Dr.William Brownson. I pray for his entire family may God bless them all.*

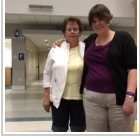
*Rev. Paul Waney, pastor emeritus of The Western Indonesia Protestant Church.*

**Rev. Paul Waney** - March 29, 2025 at 02:45 AM



“ *Dr. William C. Brownson*

August 31, 2022 at 01:26 PM



“ *Paul and I had great respect for Bill. He was so talented and had a great passion for the Lord.  
He will definitely be missed.  
Paul and Kathy Lubbers*

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**Kathy Lubbers** - May 18, 2022 at 03:54 PM

WG

“ *I have prayed with Bill since 1999 when Carolyn and I moved to Holland. That has been one of my best memories of Holland....praying with Bill. And we both prayed that we would see the greatest awakening of all times arise in our time here. Well, Bill will get the view from heaven and have an astounding view of everything world wide not just Western Michigan. It will be awesome!!!*

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**Wendell Guth** - May 15, 2022 at 02:20 PM

SU

“ *It was a pleasure to meet Bill and his family these last few months. He was a lovely man. May he rest in peace. Sending you comfort and love.....*

*Suzette Sanchez*

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**suzette** - April 13, 2022 at 07:31 AM

TW

“ From my first experience of Peniel, Bill Brownson has been an inspiring, encouraging presence. He consistently showed forth the love and goodness of God and encouraged all to experience God for themselves. He demonstrated how to rely on God in tough times. He has been a great blessing to Georgette and myself. He leaves a great and lasting legacy of faithfulness and prayer!

*Tim Woodruff*

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**Tim Woodruff** - April 12, 2022 at 09:29 PM

TM

“ Linda and I have often over the years listened to audio cassette messages by Bill from the Peniel Ministers' Conference. They continue to inspire us as well as his books which we continue to read. Rejoice in his memory, Brownson family! Linda and Ken Macari

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**the Macari's** - April 11, 2022 at 03:31 PM

CK

“ Bill was a remarkable, Godly man. I remember him being mentioned by Rev. Jack Fairey of Flint, MI, my childhood pastor at the time. Bill led Jack to the Lord and eventually to Western Seminary. Bill will be sadly missed by many. He was a dear friend to my parents, Don and Elaine Walchenbach and to us at Christ Memorial Church. With Sympathy, Cathy Koop

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**Cathy Koop** - April 10, 2022 at 11:22 AM

CS

“ Mary and I always looked forward to Ministers Conference at Peniel Bible Conference every August, which we attended for 25 years - and one of the highlights was talking with Bill and Helen. Bill was a frequent speaker during those conferences and his talks were always well-prepared, well-delivered, and perceptive of both Scripture and our needs as pastors. At times he was in our small prayer group - and his prayers were thoughtful, compassionate, and encouraging, and his love for and trust in the Lord suffused them with gratitude and hope.  
He shall be sorely missed on earth, but heaven now rings with his praises to the Lord and his fellowship with God and his people completed.

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**Charlie Sutton** - April 08, 2022 at 05:43 AM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Dr. William C. Brownson.



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April 07, 2022 at 01:52 PM

KL

“ Bill was a beloved member and friend at CNC. Paul had the privilege to be in the Sunday morning prayer group with Bill. He was such an inspiration to Paul and he learned so many things about prayer. He will be missed. Blessings to the family.

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**Kathy Lubbers** - April 07, 2022 at 09:13 AM

BY

“ My last picture of Bill telling him so long 2 weeks before his passing. He is saying " Come Lord Jesus". I am prod to be his " adopted daughter" and he my " adopted dad" since my dad and Helen departed for glory on the same day. Hebrews 12:1-4.



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**Barbara Yandell** - April 07, 2022 at 07:20 AM

LB

“ Bill and Helen were among the first to welcome Jim and me when we moved to Holland in 1970. They remained supportive through the years and we shared many good times together. Bill was remarkable for his brilliance and his warmth - and I feel so lucky to have known him. He lived his life well! My heartfelt condolences go to his whole family.

*Lee Barker*

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**Lee Barker** - April 06, 2022 at 03:51 PM

DB

“ *Doc, we miss you already. Your loving kindness, shown by you and your beautiful wife Helen, burned bright and strong. Your love for your family was second to none. Your love for your savior, Jesus Christ, ran through everything you said, did and stood for. We have lost a great one on earth but Heaven has been enriched. You were an example to many of us who struggle in our everyday walk - you saw life clearly and simply - you were a child of God and we all could see it in you. You fought the good fight, finished the race and kept the faith. Thank you, Jesus, for the life of this man! We have been blessed beyond measure.*

*Dirk and Jill Bloemendaal*

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**Dirk C Bloemendaal** - April 06, 2022 at 09:59 AM

PF

“ *Our love, prayers and comforting condolences to you Jonathan, Jeannette and Family.  
Love~  
Your Fabiano Family  
Holland Peanut Store*

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**Paula Fabiano** - April 06, 2022 at 08:13 AM