



R. G. Brock

October 31, 1927 - March 24, 2021

R.G. Brock, of Crystal Springs, passed away on March 24, 2021, at his residence. He was 93.

Born Riley Gaither Brock on Oct. 31, 1927, in Dossville, Miss., he moved to Crystal Springs a few years after high school graduation. He owned and operated Brock's Body Shop for the next 45 years until partially retiring around 1990 so he could enjoy farming and tending to his 40 acres he loved to roam.

He was widely known as simply "Brock," prompting a young person to ask one time if his name was really Brock Brock. But in his retirement years, he was best known as "The Tomato Man" to people who came from around Mississippi and neighboring states to buy his tomatoes. At 92, he bemoaned the fact that he had to cut his crop to "just 100 tomato plants" because of his health. In his earlier years, he spent much of his time hunting and fishing. But in retirement, his great joy, besides his family, was his love of gardening and taking care of his hundreds of day lily plants.

Mr. Brock was preceded in death by his parents, Edward Allen Brock and Birdie Estelle Jenkins Brock; by his wife, Barbara J. Brock; a daughter, Cherry B. Graham; a sister, Faye Faulkner Dowell.

He is survived by his son, Greg Brock, of Oxford; by daughters Anette Wade

of Columbus and Bonnie Carter of Batesville; and by his sister, Glenna Dean Tolleson (Denton) of Pascagoula.

He also leaves behind 7 grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. He was particularly grateful that he lived long enough to get to know his two-year-old great-great grandson, Will Campbell, son of Brock and Maidee Parker Campbell, and grandson of Sandy and Tony Campbell, all of Crystal Springs. At the time Will was born, there were five generations of the family living at the same time – the third time that had happened since Mr. Brock was 40.

The family is particularly grateful to the staff of Hospice Ministries of Brookhaven, in particular to his nurse, Pat Banks, and to Chaplain Rick Munn, who will conduct graveside services on Saturday, March 27, at Pilgrims Baptist Church Cemetery, along with the Rev. Johnnie Stewart of Pilgrims Rest.

For friends who would like to remember him, the family asks that donations be made to the Pilgrims Rest Baptist Church Cemetery Fund. They can be sent to the church, at 3121 Didlake Road, Crystal Springs, MS 39059. Please make clear that the donation is for the cemetery fund.

Cemetery Details

Pilgrams Rest Cemetery

3121 Didlake Road
Crystal Springs, MS 39059

Previous Events

Graveside Service

MAR 27. 2:00 PM (CT)

Pilgrams Rest Cemetery
3121 Didlake Road
Crystal Springs, MS 39059

Tribute Wall



“ *R. G. Brock*

January 28, 2023 at 04:45 PM



“ *The wonderful memories I have of Brock, He was like family to me, remembering when I lived with he and his family on Georgetown street, Some of the best times... he taught me how to ski on Lake Copiah, the many, many, times he turned that boat around to pick me up, always with a smile, sometimes out right laughter when I had really messed up, his patients was amazing. I was treated as family, in fact remembering mine and Sport's wedding in the garden room of his home, Sport and I loved he and his family like they were ours, because they were. The nights of playing "Liverpool Rummy," As we moved away to North Mississippi our time and visits dwindled in the pasting of time, I truly regret that. Great times and memories I've never forgot, and never will. Greg, the times we had, I cherish to this day. My sincere heartfelt sympathy and love to you and your family. Love and prayers, BarBara*

BarBara Harris - March 27, 2021 at 10:50 AM



“ *I would stop every summer to load up on tomatoes after my Daddy stopped growing due to his health. We have lost a lot of our WWII era tomato growers. He will be missed. Always enjoyed talking with him. Thinking of Annette and Kristin . Debbie Berch Franklin*

Debbie Franklin - March 26, 2021 at 11:33 AM

JK

“ It was my good fortune to have known Mr. Brock most of my life. Although I haven't seen him much in recent years, I have very fond memories of how nice he was to me when I was a kid. He operated an automobile body shop (Brock's Body Shop) that was behind (north of) Crystal Motor Company, the local Ford dealership. He was a very pleasant gentleman who worked hard and, as far as I know, had no enemies. Although he lived to a ripe old age, I am saddened by his passing. My sincere condolences to his family and his many friends.

Jim Kitchens - March 25, 2021 at 02:55 PM

DB

“ Looks just like Uncle Edward.

Dennis R Brock - March 25, 2021 at 12:34 PM

BM

“ Your pew at PRBC will never be the same. We love you, Mr. Brock, but are happy you and Mrs. Barbara are together in Heaven.

Betty Hodges Mott - March 24, 2021 at 09:03 PM