



## Cleo M. Brown

May 12, 1929 - February 5, 2021

Cleo M. Brown, age 91, of Mt. Carroll, IL, passed away Friday, February 5, 2021, at Allure Nursing Home. A memorial service will be held Saturday, February 13, 2021, at 2pm at Law Jones Funeral Home, in Mt. Carroll. Visitation will take place from 1pm to 2pm, the day of the service. Burial will occur at Chadwick Cemetery on a later date.

Saturday's service will be video-streamed on the Law Jones Facebook page which can be viewed here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2745600959026066/>

Cleo was born May 12, 1929, in Chadwick, IL, the daughter of Ward and Erma (Lego) Weber. She attended Chadwick schools. Shortly after her graduation from high school, Cleo married Oscar J. "Junior" Brown, on June 19, 1948. Thus began, as one grandchild fondly put it, "the greatest love story." From that moment, Cleo and Junior were inseparable. Owning and operating a farm together, they were blessed with the opportunity to work side by side, providing for themselves and their two children.

The farm, requiring their constant attention, didn't allow for them to get away, often. But they didn't let that dampen their social life. They turned their farm house into the unofficial community coffee shop, where visitors were always welcome for a hot cup of coffee, baked goods, and most importantly, good conversation. One year, Cleo kept track of how many friends they hosted, and the number came out to over 1000 visits!

Cleo had a knack for recording the events of her social circle and her community. Throughout her life, she kept a calendar, where she would not only track her schedule, but would regularly record seemingly mundane events from that day, such as visitors, completed tasks, and local and national events. Years, and even decades later, this sort of living historical document, as become a gift Cleo's family will forever cherish.

As Cleo progressed into her later years, her life shifted a bit, as it does for us all. Her gardens and strawberry beds, for which she was known, became a thing of the past, and she lost her dear Junior in 2013. Then, a few years ago, she made the transition into the nursing home. But just like the rest of her life, Cleo was always able to make a life and home out

of whatever hand she was dealt. She turned Allure Nursing Home into her home, finding clever ways to immerse herself in her new world. To the delightful entertainment of her family, and the staff, she even referred to the common area as “Downtown.” Until her last days, she kept her family top of mind, and close to her heart. Every Wednesday (the day of the week Junior passed) she would think about how much she missed her “buddy”, and she strived to remain informed about the lives of her family members.

She adored being a grandmother and great grandmother, and was eager to listen and provide advice and love to her grandkids. Always a witty woman with a great sense of humor, her grandkids came to realize that she was a great listener, but “you just might not like what she had to say about it.”

Cleo loved her family dearly and will be forever missed by her two daughters, Bonnie (Rodney) Gruenwald, of Chadwick, IL and Vicky (Tim Stanton) Jones, of Mt. Carroll, IL; six grandchildren, Doug Jones, of Milledgeville, IL, Jamie Jones, of Chicago, IL, Ty (Jess) Gruenwald, of Beloit, WI, Travis (Niki) Gruenwald, of Onalaska, WI, Kristi Jones, of Dixon, IL, and Tony (Sheryll) Gruenwald, of Italy; 12 great-grandchildren, Cameron, Dominic, Clarissa, Zander, Kiyah, and Brayson, Kalie, Jasmine, Dominic, Bailee, and Kacen, and Ryker; sister-in-law, Wanda (Robert) Stewart, of Chadwick, IL, and several nieces and nephews. Cleo is preceded in death by her parents, Ward and Erma; husband, Junior; brother, Eugene (Francis) Weber; and nephew, Terry Weber.

# Cemetery

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**Chadwick Cemetery - Chadwick**

Chadwick, IL,

# Events

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**FEB Visitation 01:00PM - 02:00PM**

**13**

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Law Jones Funeral Home - Mt. Carroll  
Illinois 64, Mt Carroll, IL, US, 61053

**FEB Memorial Service 02:00PM**

**13**

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Law Jones Funeral Home - Mt. Carroll  
Illinois 64, Mt Carroll, IL, US, 61053

# Comments

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“ A webcast video has been added.



Law-Jones Funeral Home - February 10 at 02:41 PM

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“ My grandma would always great me with grabbing my hands, kissing them, giving me a kiss on my cheek and a great big hug. Now that she's gone I really miss the love she gave. She cared about her family very much. Due to COVID-19 I was unable to get into the nursing home and see her in her last days. I miss you already grandma and I love you. I'm at peace knowing your with Jesus. I'll see you again.

Kristi Jones - February 19 at 01:45 AM

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“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Cleo M. Brown.



February 12 at 10:28 AM

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“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Cleo M. Brown.



February 12 at 05:49 AM

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“ From John, Ruth, Max and Ben Brown purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Cleo M. Brown.



From John, Ruth, Max and Ben Brown - February 11 at 08:11 PM

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“ Deepest Sympathy, Myra Sorensen and family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Cleo M. Brown.



Deepest Sympathy, Myra Sorensen and family - February 11 at 07:39 PM

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“ 76 files added to the album Family Photos



Law-Jones Funeral Home - February 10 at 11:06 AM

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“ I am very sorry for your loss. I have wonderful memories of Cleo, Junior, Bonnie and Vicki when we were Salem Township neighbors. You are right---a sense of humor and many percolators of coffee. Chris Keim

Christopher Keim - February 09 at 05:01 PM

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“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Cleo M. Brown.



February 09 at 10:12 AM

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“ Dear Bonnie, Vicki, and families,  
I am so sorry to hear of the loss of your mom. She was a wonderful, sweet lady, and she will be missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this sad time.  
Sincerely,  
David and Donna Bielema

**Donna Bielema** - February 08 at 04:21 PM



“ Bonnie & Vicki & families,  
We so sorry to hear of your Mom's passing. Our sympathy to all of you. ~Wayne & Kathy Becker

**Kathy Becker** - February 09 at 11:05 PM



“ My condolences. I always felt welcome and not just because I was a relative. Enjoyed lots of strawberries over the years. Fond memories.- Bill Brown

**William Lloyd Brown** - February 11 at 09:33 PM

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“ 51 files added to the album Family Photos



**Law-Jones Funeral Home** - February 08 at 12:53 PM

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“ Sandi Foltz sent a virtual gift in memory of Cleo M. Brown



sandi foltz - February 08 at 10:38 AM