



## Imogene Jones Brown

January 28, 1930 - August 10, 2016

Imogene "Imo" Jones Brown, 86, passed away peacefully on August 10, 2016, at Insignia of Newnan.

She was born on January 28, 1930, in Newnan, Georgia, to Muller ("Mutt") Jones, Sr., and Ada (Hearn) Jones. She graduated from Newnan High School and attended college at the University of Georgia.

She was predeceased by her parents and one brother, Muller ("Mutt") Jones and her first husband, Durward ("Duke") Sims, in 1982. "Imo" returned to Newnan in 1992 – a town she had always loved – and married John L. ("Johnny") Brown, who predeceased her in 2004.

She was a devoted wife, mother and community citizen. Throughout her life, she was an active volunteer. She taught swimming to special needs children, led PTA organizations and projects and provided office support for a hospice organization. She was deeply involved in her children's extracurricular activities, serving as a den mother for Cub Scouts, and a troop leader for Brownies and Girl Scouts. She missed only a few swim meets, baseball, softball, football and volleyball games. Over 25 years, she never missed a piano recital or musical performance.

"Imo" loved being on the go until her health no longer allowed it. She enjoyed playing golf and attending sporting events. She was an intrepid traveler when it came to visiting family and friends, thinking nothing of driving from Nebraska to Georgia with her children to see their grandparents, or flying throughout the country to visit her children.

She was a jack-of-all-trades. She could rewire a lamp, change a tire or change a fuse. She was a marvelous hostess and life of the party – though not a particularly good cook. Despite having a brown thumb, she loved to garden. After becoming interested in genealogy, she would spend hours at the library with her good friend Darlene. She was fiercely loyal to her friends and family and made life better for so many, and will be dearly missed.

She spoke about her good fortune to have had two great loves of her life, but her marriage to Johnny Brown later in life brought particular joy to her. Johnny Brown remains a legend in the greater Newnan community, having been a sports writer for 50 years for the Newnan Times Herald and having served as a Coweta County Commissioner. He also was a member of the Newnan City and Coweta County School Boards. Johnny is remembered as a champion of athletes throughout the years, always writing positively about players' accomplishments, and for founding the Coweta Sports Hall of Fame, which established a scholarship in his name for scholar-athletes in 2004. "Imo" would often walk with Johnny on the sidelines of the football field, serving as unofficial statistician. She was an accomplished writer (and relentless grammarian), and would proofread Johnny's articles and write captions for photos. And she loved every minute of it.

Survivors include her children, Duke Sims and his wife Vicki of Roscoe, IL, and Jennifer Sims and her husband Jim Gill of San Francisco, CA.; grandchildren Ross Sims of Chicago, IL, and Kristi (Steve) Johannes of East Troy, WI; stepchildren Mary Linda Howard and husband Wesley, Jr., of Newnan, John Louis Brown and wife, Sherri, of Marietta, GA, and Barbara Kathryn Jenkins and husband Ron of Murphy, North Carolina; and step-grandchildren Wesley Howard III, Lawson Howard, Jack Howard, Kathryn Keily Jenkins, Hailey Brown and Lauren Brown.

The funeral service will be held at McKoon Funeral Home on Monday, August 15, at 11:00 a.m. with Reverend Susan Haynes officiating. Interment will follow in Oak Hill Cemetery. Friends may visit the family on Monday morning from 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. In lieu of flowers, the family respectfully requests that memorials can be made to the Coweta Sports Hall of Fame for the Johnny Brown Scholarship Fund, 273 Pine Road, Newnan, GA, 30263; or to Serenity Hospice Care of Peachtree City, 23 Eastbrook Bend, Peachtree City, GA 30269.

The family wishes to thank Imo's long-term caregiver, Judy Payton; her friend and neighbor Betty Dunaway, who passed away earlier this year and the board members of the Coweta Sports Hall of Fame – particularly Joe and Elizabeth Crain, for their support and friendship; and the staff at Insignia and Serenity Hospice for her recent care.

Online condolences may be expressed at [www.mckoon.com](http://www.mckoon.com).

McKoon Funeral Home (770) 253-4580



# Cemetery Details

## Oak Hill Cemetery

96 Jefferson Street  
Newnan, GA 30263  
(770) 253-3744

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**AUG 15.** 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

McKoon Funeral Home  
38 Jackson Street  
Newnan, GA 30263  
(770) 253-4580  
care@mckoon.com

## Service

**AUG 15.** 11:00 AM (ET)

McKoon Funeral Home Chapel  
38 Jackson Street  
Newnan, GA 30263  
(770) 253-4580  
care@mckoon.com  
<http://www.mckoon.com>

# Tribute Wall

MH

“ I was so sad to learn that my Aunt "Imo" had passed away a year ago. One of my fondest memories was the time she let me drive her convertible and I was not even of age!!! We had such a good time. I still remember that she drove "bare-footed." Just love that and I do sometimes as well. My sincere thoughts and prayers to her entire family. Sure did love you "Imo."

Rosa Maureen Jones Vande Hei  
Vacaville, Ca

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**Maureen Vande Hei** - August 17, 2017 at 11:17 PM

BN

“ Dear Jenny,  
I am sorry to read about your mom passing away. I remember her so full of life, fun and love. She helped us create lasting memories. Know that I am thinking of you and your family and may God bless you with His love.

Barrie

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**Barrie Nowaczyk** - August 21, 2016 at 08:01 PM

KT

“ Dear Family:

I met your Mom while I was office manager for Beloit Hospice, she was an absolutely wonderful lady who enjoyed volunteering. I could always count on her help. We kept in touch occasionally after she moved back to Newnan. I have very fond memories of her and the teasing about my late husband "Ole What's His Name". I will always remember her glowing smile and laughter.

Kathy (Meisel) Teske  
Janesville, WI

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**Kathy Teske** - August 16, 2016 at 11:41 AM

JS

Thank you, Kathy. She loved volunteering at Beloit Hospice and always spoke so fondly of you and 'ole what's his name.' I'm sorry to hear about our husband's passing. Thank you for taking the time to share your kind words - they are much appreciated.

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**Jennifer Sims** - August 16, 2016 at 03:31 PM

NC

“ Dear Duke, Vicki, Jenny and Jim,

*Sending our sincere condolences on the passing of your mom. Imo was such a wonderful lady and friend to our family. We have so many fond memories of our times spent together in Kay and Al's kitchen...the laughter never stopped! You will be in our thoughts and prayers and she will always be in our hearts.*

*Love, Nancy, Roady, Brian & Chris*

Nancy Champion - August 14, 2016 at 07:26 PM

JS

*Nancy - thank you so much for your message. Kay and Al were such good friends to our mom and dad. And I just recently reread Johnny's column about your mom. I have MANY pictures of your parents to share with you from a humongous box of reprints we found. Even though this has been a difficult time, rest assured those pictures put a smile on our face. We are lucky to have had such wonderful parents! Thank you again for your kind thoughts and prayers.*

Jennifer Sims - August 16, 2016 at 03:34 PM

BW

“ We were so sorry to hear of Omo's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.

Bobby and Geraldine Welch - August 14, 2016 at 05:03 AM



“ 71 files added to the album LifeTributes



McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory - August 13, 2016 at 07:56 AM

JW

“ *Imo was a special lady and such a help to me when I produced the WCOH radio 60th anniversary program in 2007. She held the distinction of being the last surviving member of the original station staff and had many stories to share about the early days of Newnan radio. I last saw her with her caregiver in Kroger several years back and knew she had been in declining health. My condolences to the family as you say goodbye to the lady we knew and loved.*

*Jim Williams*

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**Jim Williams** - August 12, 2016 at 01:42 PM

RH

“ *I am so sorry to hear of Imo's passing! I will ALWAYS remember her, and her love for her family and friends... I can still hear her saying "That's Johnny Brown right there" and "have a good one"!!! She was a very special lady for sure!!!*

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**Robin Hodnett** - August 12, 2016 at 08:57 AM