Mr. Gerald "Charlie" Howard Brown

June 2, 1960 - April 11, 2026

The Foothills area is mourning the loss of a legendary broadcaster, dedicated community builder, and beloved family man. Gerald Howard Brown, known to all as "Charlie Brown," passed away on Saturday, April 11, 2026, surrounded by the family he loved so dearly.

Born in Petrolia, Ontario, Howard’s journey in radio began in southern Ontario, where he studied broadcasting before starting his career in Sarnia and North Bay. It was during these early years that he adopted his iconic on-air name. He made the move to Alberta, beginning a storied career that spanned over 40 years across Red Deer, Canmore, Lethbridge, Taber, and Calgary.

Howard settled in High River, a town that would become his true home. After several years in Calgary radio, he returned to High River airwaves at AM 1140, where he became a fan favorite on programs like Tradio. He also did the morning show on 99.7 Sun Country, connecting with listeners through his easygoing style, quick wit, and distinctive laugh. He retired in August 2025, having spent his life doing what he loved most: connecting with people.

Outside of the station, Howard was the heartbeat of the community. He was a natural storyteller who volunteered during his time hosting fundraisers, DJing local weddings, and coaching sports. An avid athlete himself, he was a fixture in senior men’s hockey and a tireless cheerleader for the Foothills Hockey

Teams (Flyers & Bisons).

While his voice reached thousands, his heart belonged to his family. Howard was the devoted husband and best friend of Tracy for 30 years. He was a man of authentic spirit who loved the music of Stompin' Tom Connors and lived with the same grit and humor found in those songs.

Howard leaves behind a legacy of kindness, service, and incredible positive energy. He is survived by his wife, Tracy Brown; his daughters, Madison Brown (Justin Kaiman) and Stevie-Lee Brown; his grandchildren; Lindsey, Hadley and Mackenzie Farough; His Nephews and Nieces that he loved dearly. Along with a community that is much quieter without his familiar voice.

In honor of Howard/Charlie's lifelong commitment to his neighbors, the family suggests donations be made to Diabetes Canada at www.diabetes.ca.

A Celebration of Charlie's Life will be held on Monday, April 20, 2026 at 11:00 A.M. at the Heritage Inn (1104 11 Ave SE, High River, AB, T1V 1P2). At the families request, please wear your favourite hockey jersey or the colour blue in honour of Charlie's favourite teams, the Toronto Blue Jays and the Toronto Maple Leafs. For those unable to attend, the service will be livestreamed via Charlie's Tribute Page at www.lylereeves.com.

Caring for the family is Lyle Reeves Funerals of High River (Craig Snodgrass) 403.652.4242.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life Service

APR **20**. 11:00 AM (MT)

Heritage Inn, High River
1104 11 Ave. SE
High River, AB (CA)

Tribute Wall

Lyle Reeves Funerals created a Webcast in memory of Mr. Gerald "Charlie" Howard Brown

Lyle Reeves Funerals - April 19 at 10:28 PM

ND

Beautiful memorial, a wonderful tribute to someone who is well loved. He is a lot like his mom.

Aunt Nelly

Nelly DeCaesteker - April 20 at 01:52 PM

DK

I first met Charlie 38 years ago when he started at CFHC in Canmore. He helped me grow in the radio business and it was a pleasant surprise to meet up with him after he moved to High River. Always a super genuine person who Bonnah and I will miss.

Dave Kormos - April 20 at 01:53 PM

I first met Charlie in the early 90s when he was at CFHC Canmore and I worked at the mother ship CFAC in Calgary. Our paths would cross from time to time over the years. He was a gentleman and truly one of a kind. Condolences to the family and all who were close to him.
Brooksie Brent Brooks, Lethbridge.

Brooksie Brooks - April 24 at 09:33 PM

JB

I only met Howie through Tracy whom I worked with at FAIM. But I did enjoy listening to him on the radio. My deep condolences Tracy, Maddie and Stevie-Lee. Jozina

Jozina Besuijen - April 24 at 08:09 PM

CB

Cathy Bradley lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald "Charlie" Howard Brown

Cathy Bradley - April 21 at 12:32 PM

SB

Dear Tracy, Madison and Stevie-Lee
My Deepest Condolences to you and your family. The ceremony was beautiful today, I am sure Charlie was dancing and singing along. Charlie is a special person to so many. I had many great conversations with Charlie both at the radio station and in the community. Charlie's smile and kindness will never be forgotten by me. From the support he gave while I was with Rowan House to the last time I saw him as he "spun tunes" at my daughter's wedding and played Baby Shark over and over for my wee grandson. Thank you for sharing Charlie. Hugs to all of you.
Sherrie Botten

Sherrie Botten - April 20 at 01:57 PM

KB

Kelly Bakken lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald "Charlie" Howard Brown

Kelly Bakken - April 20 at 01:35 PM

KB

I met Charlie through friends and his daughter Stevie (at Sobey's). He never failed to say hi no matter where we were and was always had a funny story or two. Deepest condolences to the family and friends.

Kelly Bakken - April 20 at 01:35 PM

Charlie was a great man. The love he had for his family was evident in our interactions at work. It warmed my heart to hear him speak of his family. He also took great pride in his work and loved the community and the people he was able to serve. Sending love and prayers to each of you.

Monique Hardy - April 20 at 12:41 PM

DE

a fond memory from santa doug ... visiting the brown clan on christmas eve for a number of years when Steivie and Maddi were young and feeling so welcome in Charie's s home ... ,always leaving with a container of food prepared by Tracy ...it was always a magical visit for me

Douglas Elliott - April 20 at 12:37 PM

IK

Charlie was an amazing human and a dear and supportive friend. Condolences and much love to his family and many, many friends. High River will never be the same without him.

Irene Kerr - April 20 at 10:37 AM

SO

My deepest sympathy to all of you. Gone but never forgotten, loved by everyone who knew him. You are in my thoughts and prayers Sophie

Sophie - April 20 at 09:28 AM

BH

We will be thinking of you all on this day of celebration for Charlie's life. We are thinking of his love and endless giving to our community. We are so sorry for your loss. Bill & Cheryl

Bill Cheryl Holmes - April 20 at 08:02 AM

LB

Heartfelt condolences to the family of my Dear nephew, Howard Brown. He was born to my dear sister, Isabelle and her husband Pat,12 days before my son,Philip, . Along with Patti and Rick and Aunt Jane,and many little boy cousins, all had great times at the Sweet farm near Watford for many years.
Even though separated by great distance, there was still love and connection with Howard. We send caring thoughts and prayers to Tracey and family.
Aunt Leona. Philip, Stephen and Daniel Bjorkman

Leona Bjorkman - April 19 at 01:33 PM

RB

4 files added to the album Howard's Family

Reginald P. Brown - April 19 at 10:37 AM

RW

Rose Wald lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald "Charlie" Howard Brown

Rose Wald - April 18 at 05:31 AM

RW

Condolences to Tracy and his two daughters! I'm so sorry

Rose Wald - April 18 at 05:32 AM

JS

I was in high school with Howard back in the 70's. He was a great kid and was a facebook friend too.

John Sammon - April 17 at 04:57 PM

DS

What a great guy and friend - going to miss you Charlie!

Dave Skitch - April 17 at 02:09 PM

BP

Charlie was Charlie😊A community man, friend of many and truly a family man. He loved his Leafs & Blue Jays ,camping, being a DJ but most of all just making conversation. Over the years I would go in to the radio station to talk pickleball and always ended up talking family. Our lane swim times crossed paths many times and discussions of community would come up.. His love for his family was top of his list. You my friend will be missed by all. Thank you for always caring being supportive and being "YOU"

Brian Popowitch - April 17 at 11:35 AM

JN

John Nikulak lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald "Charlie" Howard Brown

john nikulak - April 17 at 11:17 AM

BW

1 file added to the tribute wall

Bob Warwick - April 17 at 10:44 AM

BW

It was a privilege to know Charlie Brown
Deepest sympathies to family & friends
He was a good man & a great friend

Bob Warwick - April 17 at 10:47 AM

RB

1 file added to the album Howard's Family

Reginald P. Brown - April 17 at 08:42 AM

Shannon Anderson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald "Charlie" Howard Brown

Shannon Anderson - April 17 at 12:42 AM

HY

Hélène Young lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald "Charlie" Howard Brown

Hélène Young - April 16 at 03:16 PM

JB

I didn't know Charlie very well personally but know many who do, and my experiences with him were always positive! He has certainly left his mark on the community. My deepest condolences to his family ❤️

Janet & Travis Boldt - April 16 at 02:48 PM

SD

Sharon Doll lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald "Charlie" Howard Brown

Sharon Doll - April 16 at 02:24 PM

PZ

Our sincerest sympathy to Charlie's family. He was definitely a one of a kind man who was such an advocate for our community. Charlie always called us Chief and Mrs. Chief didn't matter where we were. We were so happy to have Charlie DJ our anniversary a couple of months before he retired. There is an empty spot in our hearts and in our community. Rest in peace Charlie.
Sincerely Len and Pat Zebedee.

Pat Zebedee - April 16 at 01:39 PM

ED

Our condolences to Tracy & Charlie's family. Charlie was always High River's #1 supporter. Whenever we went in for an 'on air' interview, he always asked about our family and how the kids were doing. Charlie was genuinely excited and interested in whatever we were talking about, whether it was the Santa Claus Parade, the Little Britches Parade, the Lights in the Park or the Show 'n Shine. His enthusiasm and sense of humour was infectious. He will be sorely missed by us all.
Ted Dawson & Hank Leeferink

E.M. Ted Dawson - April 16 at 12:45 PM

PA

Our sincere sympathies go out to entire Brown family on their loss of Charlie. He touched so many lives and will be missed by many. Our thoughts and prayers are with each and everyone of you at this time.

perry & Terri Andersen - April 16 at 12:20 PM

Our condolences sent to Tracy and the entirety of the Brown Family. He will be missed by all who had the opportunity of knowing him! RIP Charlie🙏🏼😇

Angie McCormick - April 16 at 12:15 PM

LC

An incredible man and a great broadcaster. His energy will be missed! So many great memories at the radio station together.

Logan Coutts - April 16 at 11:14 AM

JR

Charlie always made you feel like he was so happy to see you. Loved his sense of humour and caring commitment to community. He supported and promoted Stories of the High River Flood book which helped make it a sell-out success. Charlie, you will be so missed by so many. Keep 'em laughing up there.

Jane and Joe Russell - April 16 at 11:09 AM

DM

Debbie Merckx lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald "Charlie" Howard Brown

Debbie Merckx - April 16 at 08:35 AM

DN

Condolences to the Brown family.

Don, Bobbi and Alyssa Novakowski - April 15 at 11:42 PM

RS

I first met Charlie at the CFAC Studios on 17th Avenue (Ironically the exact same spot I work at now) in the fall of 1990. The Program Director at the time, Dave Maller, introduced me to Charlie, who was in working a weekend at CFAC, but worked full time at CFHC in Canmore. Back in those days Charlie was a young skinny guy with a good head of blonde curly hair! Dave said to me "Meet Charlie Brown. He's going to be a big deal in this business one day!" I remembered Charlie for two reasons, one because of his name and two because of how Dave predicted his future. He was right. Charlie was a big deal. Cut to 2011 at the station in High River. Who walks through the door, but Charlie Brown. He didn't remember me at the time, but I sure remembered him and we hit it off right away. We knew a lot of the same people and looked at life a lot in the same way and I became good friends with Charlie. I loved working with him and sure enjoyed spending time with him. We played in a lot of golf tournaments together and shared a whole lot of laughs! I was shocked when I heard the news of his passing. I was looking forward to spending more time with Charlie during his retirement. My deepest sympathies to Tracy and his daughters and their families. I'm really going to miss my friend! Good Speed Charlie Brown!

Russell Skeet - April 15 at 10:55 PM

CG

So sorry for your loss Tracy and family. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.

Love the guminy family.

Carol guminy - April 15 at 09:29 PM

JM

1 file added to the album Charlies Buddies

Jonathan McCarroll - April 15 at 09:18 PM

HH

We still can't believe Howard is gone. He was the best and was so charismatic. We played a small role in getting Howard into broadcasting in Sarnia, Ontario and it was so great to see him flourish in the industry and leave such a legacy. Howard and his Mom even sang at our wedding in 1977.

We saw Howard a couple of times in the last few years on our trips to the Calgary area. We will treasure our memories of him. Our deepest condolences to the family.

Herman and Paddie Hulshof

Herman Hulshof - April 15 at 08:46 PM

AG

Al & Nicole Gaja lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald "Charlie" Howard Brown

Al & Nicole Gaja - April 15 at 08:15 PM

AZ

Thank you Charlie for your support of local talent and the way you cared for your community. Your name and “community spirit” will go hand in hand forever. Rest in Peace.

Ann Holmes Zirk - April 15 at 07:56 PM

VM

My family and I are all saddened and shocked at the news of Charlie’s passing. We had just shared stories with him at the Okotoks pool, laughing and reminiscing about the decades of time we had spent working in Radio. I always enjoyed Charlie’s stories. We wish to express our heartfelt condolences to Charlie’s family.

Vernon Mooers - April 15 at 06:56 PM

BV

I went through high school in Watford with Howard. Those were four interesting years and never a dull moment when he was around.
He was the valedictorian for our high school graduation and didn’t have a thing written down. Everything was ad-lib. It was so good. In fact the following year in the year book where the valedictorian speech should have been it simply said not available.
He was such a character and will be missed.
Sending our deepest sympathies to his family.

Brenda VanEngelen - April 15 at 07:28 PM

MC

Deeply saddened to hear about Charlie's passing. I always enjoyed conversations with Charlie, he always had great stories, laughter, made you feel like you had been friends forever and he knew so many people.
I am sad that he never made up to Lacombe for the retirement golf game that we talked about.
We were all fortunate to have a piece of Charlie in our lives.
Condolences to his family and hope you can find comfort in all your memories.

Mark Crichton - April 15 at 09:57 PM

KT

Kyle Thiessen lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald "Charlie" Howard Brown

kyle Thiessen - April 15 at 06:42 PM

KT

Your voice and reason will never leave me my friend. We lost a legend, and you will be missed forever bud.

kyle Thiessen - April 15 at 06:44 PM

Stephanie Scherer lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald "Charlie" Howard Brown

Stephanie Scherer - April 15 at 06:00 PM

RB

Brother Rick & families

Rick Brown - April 15 at 05:44 PM

MS

Michelle Smith lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald "Charlie" Howard Brown

Michelle Smith - April 15 at 05:23 PM

DA

Dan McCuaig

Dan - April 15 at 04:49 PM

to the family members who you might me I am sorry for your lost, I do miss hearing his announcements whether if its on the radio at any events even he playing songs

Scott Rozander - April 15 at 04:36 PM

MD

I am absolutely heartbroken to hear of Charlie's passing! I'll never forget our times together that always came with a laugh. May your heaven include your beloved "Buds" winning the cup every year my friend! We lost a good one and I will always remember you.

Mark Decoux - April 15 at 04:34 PM

KT

Kathy Thornhill lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald "Charlie" Howard Brown

Kathy Thornhill - April 15 at 04:08 PM

KC

Kathy Cuthbertson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald "Charlie" Howard Brown

Kathy Cuthbertson - April 15 at 04:07 PM

LP

Lesley Plumley lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald "Charlie" Howard Brown

Lesley Plumley - April 15 at 04:01 PM

LP

My deepest condolences to all of Charlie's family and friends. This was heartbreaking to read that Charlie passed. I will always have wonderful memories of Charlie and his sense of humor. We worked on a few events together and I just adored our time together. Rest in peace Charlie!

Lesley Plumley - April 15 at 04:01 PM

KL

Kathy Lambourn lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald "Charlie" Howard Brown

Kathy Lambourn - April 15 at 04:00 PM

SM

Our deepest condolences to family on the loss of Charlie. He was a true gentleman and friend. Rest in peace our friend. Will make sure to pass you that puck when I see you next. Scott and Joy McIntyre and family

Scott McIntyre - April 15 at 03:48 PM

JC

Jeff Callahan lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald "Charlie" Howard Brown

Jeff Callahan - April 15 at 03:41 PM

SS

Sheila /Lawrence Storoschuk lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald "Charlie" Howard Brown

Sheila /Lawrence Storoschuk - April 15 at 03:36 PM

TV

Howard was one of a kind. A heart as big as all outdoors. Family man, and gave his all in everything he did. Gone too soon. Thinking of his loved ones at this difficult time

terry villeneuve - April 18 at 06:19 PM