

**Peter E. Brownback****Date of Death:** 5/18/2012

Peter E. Brownback II was born on 14 December 1920 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to John and Amy Brownback. He lived and worked on the family farm in Pottstown, Pennsylvania until finishing his secondary education at The Hill School in 1939. He matriculated at the University of Alabama and received his bachelor's degree there in 1943. Mr. Brownback married the former Annadrue Harris in 1942. Their marriage lasted until her death on 22 December 2011. He is survived by three of their four children, eleven grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren. Mr. Brownback enlisted in the Army in 1942 and attended Officer Candidate School before being commissioned. He served in various units in the United States and joined the 11th Airborne Division in the Pacific Theater in 1945. He stayed with the unit during the occupation of Japan until he was released from active duty in 1946. He returned to the University of Alabama and was awarded his master's degree in 1947. He then spent two years at the University of Pennsylvania completing his course work for his Doctor of Philosophy Degree in history. He was awarded the Degree in 1952. Mr. Brownback served as an Associate Dean at the University of Alabama from 1948-1952 and as a member of the History Faculty. In 1953, Mr. Brownback went to work for the Central Intelligence Agency. He served in various positions in the CIA, both in the United States and abroad. His particular area of expertise was in the area of para-military operations, requiring close contact and coordination with United States and foreign military commands. In 1967, Mr. Brownback joined the Agency for International Development. His initial eight years were spent in the Republic of Vietnam-in My Rho, Bach Lieu, and Nha Trang. Of particular note were his actions during the Tet Offensive of 1968. He took charge of the defenses of the American facility in My Tho and personally ensured that the Viet Cong were not able to seize the facility. The Department of the State recognized him for personally eliminating thirty-two Viet Cong attackers; however, until his death he insisted that the total was thirty-six. After the fall of Vietnam, Mr. Brownback was transferred to Washington, D.C., where he served until his retirement from federal service in 1980. He focused upon the Sinai Support Mission, providing support for the United States efforts to maintain peacekeepers in the Sinai-an effort which required extensive travel to and from Israel and Egypt. Mr. Brownback retired from the United States Army Reserve in 1980 as a Lieutenant Colonel. After his retirement, the couple moved to north Alabama where they engaged in boating and travel and in being the best host and hostess to family and friends that anyone has ever known. Mr. Brownback was an inspiration to those who knew and worked for him and a model to his family. He will be sorely missed.