



Mary Brown

NOV 5, 1941 - FEB 3, 2026



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Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
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SAN DIEGO, CA. – It is with profound sadness that we announce the death of Mary Ellen Brown on Feb. 3, 2026, at the age of 84. She was a cherished mother, grandmother, teacher and friend who left an indelible mark on those who knew her.

Born on Nov. 5, 1941, in Merrill, Wisconsin, Mary was the youngest daughter of Chester and Ellen Funk. She graduated from Martin Luther College in New Ulm, Minnesota in 1963 and began teaching in a one-room Lutheran school in Pomona, Ca. She met Raymond Paul “Pete” Brown Jr. there and they married in December of 1964. They moved to San Diego for his aerospace work and she got a job as a sixth grade teacher at Francis W. Parker school in 1965. They later divorced

During her 43 years at the school, she was beloved by her students. She used innovative methods to inspire her classes, including doing magic tricks and creating an annual “Ikidarod” race in memory of former student Alex Szekeley. Mary also enjoyed water aerobics, watching Padres games and taking an active role in her church, Reformation Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Mary is survived by her daughter, Michelle Marie Miller, and her grandsons, Benjamin Ley Miller and Scott William Miller. She was preceded in death by her parents and all three siblings , Barbara, Ronald and Richard.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 1 pm on. March 28 at the Mission Hills campus of Francis W. Parker School. Family and friends are invited to attend and share memories.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the Mary Brown



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Scholarship Fund at Francis Parker:

<https://www.givecampus.com/campaigns/10962/donations/new>

Select Named Endowment Fund and type in "Mary Brown Fund" in the designation field.

Mary was truly one of a kind and her legacy of love and learning will live on through those she touched.



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Mary by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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