

## Rodney Lee Brown



Rodney Lee Brown, 80, of Las Cruces, NM, and a Grinnell native, died at his home Oct. 2, 2020, under the care of his wife and the assistance of Mesilla Valley Hospice.

The son of Ellis Leroy Brown and Ruth Edith Gross Brown, he was born in Grinnell on Feb. 10, 1940. He graduated from Grinnell High School in 1958, and then from Iowa State University with a Bachelor of Science in horticulture in 1962. He married Susann Alice Wardell in Grinnell on Aug. 22, 1974.

He started his career doing landscape design in Colorado from 1962 to 1966. He also worked in mail order with Wayside Gardens in Ohio, as well as with Master Builders in Cleveland, Ohio. From 1975 to 1989, he was with Foster & Gallagher in Peoria, Ill., where he was senior vice-president of Brecks Dutch-Bulbs and Springhill Nurseries. He also served as president of the Mail Order Gardening Association 1985-86, and was president of Dutch Gardens in Adelphia, NJ, from 1995 to 1998.

He retired to Las Cruces in 1999, where he enjoyed golfing at Picacho Hills Country Club.

He is survived by his sons Bradley G. Brown and Brentley G. Brown; two grandchildren; and his sister Judith D. Cook.

He was preceded in death by his parents, and two brothers, James G. Brown and Bennett R. Brown.

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