

**Charles (Charlie) Brown**  
**P.O. Box 1804**  
**Savannah, Georgia 31402**

- ✚ Born in Savannah, GA, to David and Ruby I. Brown.  
Reared in Savannah GA, attended Chatham County public schools.  
His civil rights activism began at age 12 marching with Freedom Marchers trying to sit in at the Howard Johnson diner at the foot of the bridge and getting arrested. He continues to this day willing to put his life on the line fighting for civil rights, economic rights and environmental rights.
- ✚ Wife of 46 years Charlena and two children Charis Melba and Charles M. Brown II, two grandchildren Alaysia, 11 years old (daughter of Charles II) and Julius, 10 years old (son of Charis).
- ✚ Provided Technical Assistance to Good Service, LLC a Business Development and Marketing Company managing the Savannah Entrepreneurial Center as Head of Marketing, Research and Development (2004-2011). In this position he was instrumental in helping many African Americans open and establishing new businesses; many of which are thriving right now today.
- ✚ Mr. Brown was triumphant in applying his marketing expertise to several political marketing campaigns:
  - Mayor Floyd Adams bid for 1<sup>st</sup> African American Mayor of Savannah; passed out literature and helped to get the word out.
  - School Board President Hugh Golson 2002 -- helped with Marketing for his campaign.
  - Mayor Floyd Adams bid for the 12<sup>th</sup> District Congress Seat, (Dropped out because of personal reasons)
  - Mayor Floyd Adams bid for 2 District School Board; (won)Marketing & Distribution
  - Mayor Otis Johnson, as Campaign Coordination & Marketing, for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Terms
  - Senator Lester Jackson, Campaign Coordination & Marketing

- Magistrate Court Judge Michael Barker, Technical Assistance for his first election.
- Tara Scott Brown for Superior Clerk (winner of July 2004 Democratic Primary) Campaign Coordination.
- Larry Chisolm, bid for 1<sup>st</sup> African American District Attorney elected in Chatham County -- Campaign Coordination & Marketing
- Al Scott, bid for 1<sup>st</sup> African American Chairman of the County Commission in Chatham County—1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Term Campaign Coordination and Marketing
- Dr. Tonya Howard-Hall, winner in May 2018 – 8<sup>th</sup> District School Board - Campaign Coordination

✚ Charlie Brown attended Richard Arnold High School as one of the first group of African American students during the beginning of its integration. Richard Arnold High School was considered the first Magnet School for trades such as Welding, Electronics, Food Service, Sheet Metal, Drafting and others trades. He excelled as a “4”-Letterman, participating in basketball, baseball, football and track. Charlie won the Region 3-AAA 880 in track, finishing 1<sup>st</sup> in the Region and then going on as the 1<sup>st</sup> athlete to represent Richard Arnold at the State level.

✚ Charlie received several scholarship offers, including Savannah State College at that time and Brewton-Parker; he was drafted during the Vietnam Conflict and went on to serve his country. During his time in the military he became a part of the Special Services Department and played basketball for the Army at Fort Gordon in Augusta GA, Fort Dix in New Jersey and Fort Ord in California. He played on several All-Star Teams. After being honorably discharged from the regular Army he served 4 years in the Army Reserve.

✚ After returning home to Savannah, Charlie enrolled at Savannah Technical College and earned an Associate Degree in Marketing and Management and played basketball on their newly formed team.

✚ Upon graduation from Savannah Technical College (1972) he accepted a job with Orkin as the first African American representative for Orkin as an Inspector with a company car.

Later in that same year, he married Miss Charlena Jones after a year's courtship. In early 1973 he was offered a job with the Nestle' Company as a Representative (the first African American in the South) of the Chocolate Division with a company car and expense account. This position entailed covering over 65 counties in Georgia, also areas in South Carolina and parts of Florida. In 1976 Mr. Brown was Voted Salesman of the Year on a National Level for the Nestle' Company. Soon after, Mr. Brown was promoted to Regional Trainer for the Nestle' Company; Becoming the first African American trainer for the Nestle' Company in the Chocolate Division in the southeast, with the responsibility of training new sales representatives in Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and parts of Tennessee.

✚ Charlie Brown began as an entrepreneur early in life by buying donuts at 3 for .05 and reselling them for .05 each. Later he became President of Charlie Brown's Restaurant on Bull Street, Gallery Convenience Store & Arcade –Bull Street, Charlie Brown's Seafood & Chicken on West Oglethorpe, the Palace Arcade on West Oglethorpe and President of the Right Fit Glove Company. He also worked with D. L. Henderson Company as a Territory Sales Representative and Marketing Representative for the Trigon Company.

#### ✚ **Active in Community Service:**

- Vice President of Richard Arnold Booster Club 1976,
- Advisory Board for Savannah Technical College for several years in the 1980s
- Advisory Board Member of the Harambee House/Citizens for Environmental Justice – under Dr. Mildred McClain
- Member of the Chamber of Commerce 1979,
- Served as Vice President of Savannah Chatham County Fair Housing Council, and as served Assistant Treasurer,
- Served as a Board of Trustees Member of the Greater Savannah Athletic Hall of Fame over 20 years

- Served 5 Times Honors Court Chairman, the Greater Savannah Athletic Hall of Fame
- Now serves as Emeritus Board Member of the Greater Savannah Athletic Hall of Fame
- Chaplain of Frank Callen Boys and Girls Club Alumni and Friends Association, Inc. ,
- The Prince Hall Masons Pythagoras No. 11,
- Founder of the Blue Blazer Youth Entrepreneurs
- Charter Member of the Good Ole Boys Club,

- ✚ Sponsored football jerseys for Forsythe Flames under Coach Jody
- ✚ Sponsored an Award for Most Versatile Athletes Male and Female at Richard Arnold High School