



### About the Author

T. M. Brown, Mike to friends and family, embraces his Georgia heritage, thanks to the paternal branches of his family tree. In *Testament*, you met Wiley Edwards, and his name was not chosen by chance. Mike's family tree records two patriarchs named Wiley Virgil Brown, his father and grandfather. Both bore enormous influence on Mike throughout his life. However, it wasn't until 2008 after his father passed did he and his siblings learn the full depth of the hard times and sacrifices the Brown family endured, which precipitated their grandfather leaving Georgia during the Depression to find work in Miami. As a child, Mike remembers many warm Sunday afternoons driving past Stone Mountain to visit his Great-Uncle's farm. However, it was not until his father passed away that Mike discovered why his father loved talking about his Uncle Kerry and Aunt Monk and that old farm. During the darkest days of the Depression, Mike's grandfather left the family behind to find work but not before the family got broken up and Mike's dad, the oldest son ended up living with his Uncle and Aunt until the family got relocated to Miami before World War II. Though Snellville's dust-filled red clay backroads have been widened and paved for decades, Mike recalls getting bitten by barb-wire pasture fences, sipping cool well-water from a ladle, and getting scrubbed in a washtub near the front stoop of Uncle Kerry's and Aunt Monk's old farmhouse.

Retired since 2014 from the 9-to-5 life, Mike and his wife Connie reside below Atlanta near Newnan, Georgia. When not writing or traveling for book events and such, Mike and Connie enjoy sharing time with their two sons and their families. Writing about *Shiloh* has conjured up many near-forgotten memories, and thanks to his Pop and Poppa, he cherishes this truth — *“The testament of a man lies not in the magnitude of possessions and property left to his heirs, but the reach of his legacy long after his death.”*