

A History of Brown's Manufacturing, LLC

Mike Brown was born and raised in Henryetta, Oklahoma. He learned to weld in 1963 when he was only 8 years old, starting what would become a life long career in the welding and fabrication industry.

Between the ages of 19 and 23, Mike traveled extensively across the Midwest working as a certified pipeline x-ray technician before marrying Michelle and returning to his roots in Henryetta to work as a welder for a compressor manufacture in nearby Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

Mike and Michelle Brown and Mike's parents Ray and LoReese Brown started B & B Welding in 1981, and received their first ASME Code Stamp to start fabricating pressure vessel equipment. Mike and his father manufactured compressor bottles and scrubbers, as well as gas separators and API oil storage tanks for the oil field industry. Their first fabrication shop was 8' x 8' and was mainly used for tool storage – due to limited space, all of the fabrication and welding was done outside. In 1983 B & B Welding built their first ASME Code pressure vessels for the filtration industry. This was just the first of thousands of ASME code-stamped filter vessels that would be shipped all over the world from Henryetta, Oklahoma.



Mike and Ray Brown, 1981

In 1985 B & B Welding changed names to Brown's Repair, Inc. While Mike, his father and a crew were fabricating filtration pressure vessels, they were also manufacturing radiation shields for nuclear testing equipment for the nuclear power industry as well as other pressure vessels for the oil and gas industry.



Welding a stainless steel vessel

Brown's Repair, Inc. was growing and Mike needed a good "right hand man" to help keep the fabrication business growing and on track. Larry Branson was hired by Brown's Repair, Inc. in 1991 and soon became the shop foreman. Larry has been very instrumental in the growth and success of the vessel fabrication business. Larry works hard to maintain the sometimes demanding fabrication schedule.

Brown's Repair Inc. began manufacturing for Velcon Filters, Inc. in 2004 and the name was changed again to Brown's Manufacturing, LLC. To date, well over 10,000 pressure vessels have been manufactured and shipped around the world from the small town of Henryetta.

The main shop had grown to 90' x 120'. An addition was recently completed which added another 60' x 100' feet to the main shop along with a state of the art temperature controlled paint room. In 27 years operation, Brown's Manufacturing has grown from 64 square feet to now more than 25,000 square feet under roof.



New state-of-the-art temperature controlled paint room

Mike and Michelle Brown believe in strong family values and love small town life where they settled down to raise two daughters. They now have two grandsons who are the center of their lives. Mike's father passed away several years ago but his mother is still active in Henryetta.