



# ELLISON "TARZAN" BROWN MEMORIAL FUND

THE MAN WHO GAVE HEARTBREAK HILL ITS NAME

**Why Now:** Ellison "Tarzan" Brown was the best Indigenous long-distance runner in history, and one of the best in the world. He was never able to earn a living through his athletic prowess. He was never acknowledged rightfully for the athlete he was during his running career. We want to change that!

**Our Goal:** Raise \$50,000 in funds to enable the creation of a life-size bronze statue depicting Tarzan's victory at the 1939 Boston Marathon. The statue will be placed in the "New" Tomaquag Museum which will be built at the University of Rhode Island. We are coordinating our efforts with the museum, and our efforts have been approved by his grandchildren.

**Who we are:** Our Steering Committee members are Byron Brown, Chief Sachem of the Wiquapaug Eastern Pequot Indian Tribe, Summer Gonsalves a Brown family member, Larry Hirsch, Jim Hirst, Joe Pellegrino, Nick Bottone and C. P. A. Steve Greene.

**Our Progress:** We have established a subsidiary bank account to receive funds, we have received an estimate and have authorized the creation of the mold to be used for the statue. Our contributions to date are already greater than 10% of our goal, and we have just begun. Please note: As a 501 (C) organization, your contributions are Tax deductible. Gifts are tax deductible as provided by law.

1934 Boston Marathon, placed 32nd  
1935 Boston Marathon, placed 13th  
1936 Boston Marathon, winner



**His Story:** Ellison "Tarzan" Brown was a legendary marathon runner from the Narragansett Tribe of Rhode Island. Here are some highlights of his running history:

- **Early Life:** Born on September 22, 1913, in Westerly, Rhode Island, Brown was known for his natural athleticism and strength. He earned the nickname "Tarzan" due to his love for climbing trees and swinging from branches.
- **Boston Marathon:** Brown first gained attention in the Boston Marathon in 1935, where he finished thirteenth despite minimal training and wearing old sneakers. He went on to win the Boston Marathon in 1936 and 1939.
- **Records:** He set the American men's marathon record at the 1939 Boston Marathon with a time of 2:28:51 and broke his own record at the 1940 Salisbury Beach Marathon with a time of 2:27:30.
- **Olympics:** Brown competed in the 1936 Summer Olympics in Berlin and qualified for 1940 Olympics, which were canceled due to World War II
- **Legacy:** Brown is one of only two Indigenous North Americans to have won the Boston Marathon and the only one to win it more than once. He was inducted into the American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame in 1972.

Please scan the QR code below to visit our Website for more information.



OR  
Visit:

[Tarzانبrownmemorialfund.org](http://Tarzانبrownmemorialfund.org)

### Boston Marathon History

1937 Boston Marathon, placed 31st  
1938 Boston Marathon, placed 51<sup>st</sup>  
1939 Boston Marathon, winner

1940 Boston Marathon, placed 13th  
1943 Boston Marathon, placed 21st  
1946 Boston Marathon, placed 12th

Sponsored by: Wiquapaug Eastern Pequot Indian Tribe

Mail inquiries or donations to:

Tarzan Brown Memorial Fund  
C/O Summer Gonsalves  
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We are a 501©3 organization