The Brown Family Endowed Collection in Italian Studies
In Memory of Marc S. Brown

Before his untimely death in 2003 at age 49, Marc S. Brown was the chief executive officer of Metal Flow Corporation in Holland, Michigan, the company he founded with his father, Curt, in 1978. Together with Marc’s brother, Michael, the Browns grew Metal Flow from a small family business to a corporation with 155 employees.

Mark was known as a caring employer and community philanthropist; he served on the boards of the Holland Chamber of Commerce and the Holland Economic Development Corporation. He was a member of Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church and helped to found the Corpus Christi Catholic School. He is survived by his wife, Leslie, and their children: Brian, Justin, and Chelsea (’07). In addition to this endowment, the Browns have supported the Curtis Michael Brown Memorial Greenhouse, in honor of Marc’s late brother.

Notre Dame has a doctoral program in Italian literature and aspirations of making library resources, programs, and services in Italian studies, especially Italian literature, among the finest in the country. The Brown Collection is an invaluable partner on this path to excellence, as it enables the acquisition of important manuscripts such as those held by the Vatican library; the continuing enhancement of the magnificent Dante collection; the acquisition of newly published books and journals in the area of Italian studies; the provision of appropriate databases to facilitate the learning, teaching, and research at Notre Dame and beyond; and finally, the provision of skilled librarians to provide the necessary assistance at all levels of inquiry.