



## Glenn E. Potter

July 5, 1943 - December 23, 2022

Glenn E. Potter

July 5, 1943 – December 23, 2022

Glenn Edward Potter was born to Russell and Lillian (Negly) Potter on July 5, 1943 in Canton, Illinois. The youngest of three boys, his childhood was centered on faith, hard work and the family business, Central Butane Gas (CBG) in Canton, Illinois. Glenn's teenage summers were spent working on the farm owned by his Aunt Louise and Uncle Chellis. He was a good student and began his college days at the University of Illinois, but quickly transferred to Ottawa Baptist University, Ottawa, KS where in 1965 he earned a degree in Finance.

Glenn married Karen Dent in 1965, the same summer he began working for CBG with his father and brothers. He soon left to become the Business Manager at Graham Hospital, Canton, Illinois just in time to help the hospital acclimate to a new law called Medicare. His son Allen was born at Graham Hospital in 1968, and daughter Anne the following year. In 1970, he moved to St. Louis, MO with his family to pursue a master's degree in health administration at Washington University. He graduated with honors and accepted a residency in Tempe, Arizona with Desert Samaritan Hospital System, where his first assignment was to oversee the construction of a new hospital. In 1973 he accepted an administrative associate position at the University of North Carolina Hospital – Chapel Hill. In 1977 he became Vice President of Operations at the Cuyahoga County Metropolitan Hospital

System in Cleveland, Ohio. In 1982 he became Executive Vice President of the Iowa Methodist Hospital System in Des Moines, Iowa. In 1990 he became CEO and Vice Chancellor of the University of Kansas Hospital. Finally in 1996, he became the CEO of Health Enterprises based in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, retiring in 2007.

While in Chapel Hill in 1977, Glenn married Barbara Williams, who subsequently adopted Anne. With Barbara's love and support, he established a strong professional reputation as a leader of people and ideas, capable of building strong relationships and bringing his visionary projects to fruition. A man of many talents, he inspired confidence and trust in others, from boards of directors to doctors to nurses to housekeeping staff in the many organizations in which he served. He saw everyone and valued their contributions in patient care.

Those who knew him best treasured his deep and resonant singing voice, his memory for and talent in telling jokes, his patience, and his twinkling smile. He was a tender and generous husband to Barbara. He empowered his children to be anything they wanted to be. He did not raise his voice or complain, even as health issues in recent years robbed him of vigor. He was whip-smart and affectionate, with a mind for math and music; he was a prodigious reader; he had a heart for fun and valued kindness. He only got up early for work or for golf, a hobby he relished for decades. He played all the prestigious golf courses across the U.S., plus Scotland and Ireland. He loved college basketball especially March Madness and was an avid UNC TarHeels and Kansas University Jay Hawks fan. Nothing was scheduled during those basketball tournaments. He started every day with Wordle. Glenn knew all the dogs in his neighborhood by name, and was known for carrying treats in his pocket just in case he ran into one of his canine friends. He was comforted in his final months with outreach from his many friends, former colleagues and the company of his family and beloved cat, Sophie Jo.

Glenn went to his eternal life with Jesus on December 23, 2022 after suffering a severe stroke on December 13, 2022. He was preceded in death by his

mother, father, stepmother (Ruth), and brothers, John and Jim. He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Barbara; children, Allen (Natasa) of Denver, Colorado, and Anne Walters (Mike) of Plymouth, Minnesota; and grandson, Ronan Walters.

In honor of his deep affection for the many cats he loved, we encourage those who wish to make memorial gifts to direct them to the Humane Society of Sarasota County (Florida). This no-kill shelter has been a beacon to Sarasota animals and many animals from surrounding shelters who did not fare as well following Hurricane Ian in September 2022. [www.hssc.org](http://www.hssc.org) Additionally, Glenn would be pleased with a memorial to the Avon, Illinois Lions Club, where he found friendship and service to others in retirement.

A Celebration of Glenn's life to be held at Sarasota Baptist Church, 7091 Proctor Rd, January 16, 2023 at 2:00 PM. Memories and condolences can be left for the family online at [www.MFHcares.com](http://www.MFHcares.com).

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

JAN 16. 2:00 PM (ET)

Sarasota Baptist Church  
7091 Proctor Road  
Sarasota, FL 34241

# Tribute Wall

BK

“ *A kind and considerate man with a twinkle in his eye.*

---

**bob kowaleski** - January 16, 2023 at 01:01 PM

DG

“ *We didn't know Glenn well but while in his presence on the occasions when we met, my husband and I both felt like we had known him for a life time. My Husband's sister, Pam, was a good friend of Barbara's and when helping her to move, Barb and Glenn invited me to stay in their home and I was able to learn more about Glenn. Aside from his relaxing and unassuming manner, I came to realize that he was a very special person. Our Family lives far away from Florida and we will always feel indebted to Barbara as well as to Glenn for the amazing support they provided to Pam while she experienced serious health problems and other issues.*

*Pam and her son Carter as well as myself and my husband Graham were so sorry to learn of Glenn's illness and subsequent passing and will always remember him with fondness, admiration and gratitude for the person that he was.*

*We shall all be thinking of you Barbara and your Family on January 16 and wish we could be there. Our condolences and may God bless you all.*

*Dayelle Gould*

---

**Dayelle Gould** - January 15, 2023 at 01:07 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Glenn E. Potter.*



---

January 10, 2023 at 04:07 PM



“ *Dear Barb and family, I am sorry to hear of Glenn's passing. I did not know him well but always enjoyed when he stopped in the office to see Barb at St.Luke's hospital in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He brought a smile and positive energy with him. It was clear how much he loved and supported Barb. You are in my thoughts and prayers.*  
*Mary Ann Osborn*

---

**Mary Ann Osborn** - January 05, 2023 at 11:17 AM



“ *Our deepest sympathy and prayers for all.*  
*Charlotte Hutchinson and Family.*

---

**Pamela Hutchinson** - January 04, 2023 at 05:16 PM

JC

“ From the day I moved to Iowa in 1997, Glenn was always a person I admired. I was just a teenager at the time, but I always enjoyed the conversations I had with him. I also enjoyed the games of pool while watching football on Monday nights. Glenn was successful in life and a perfect example of family, faith and compassion. I was sad to see you guys move from Iowa, but have always kept you in my thoughts and prayers.

*He will be greatly missed.*

*Josh Carter  
Cedar Rapids, IA*

---

**Joshua Carter** - January 03, 2023 at 11:12 AM

DD

“ Glenn was *THE* genuine leader. Great judge of character. Great midwestern common sense. Great sense of humor. He had significant positive influence on many, many people; including me—who he hired 37 years ago. I was fortunate to see Barb and Glenn last summer.

---

**Denny Drake** - January 03, 2023 at 10:45 AM

JS

“ I will always remember Glenn as a great guy who would help anyone . never said a bad word about anyone . He will be greatly missed in Lions.

*David Serven*

---

**james david serven** - January 01, 2023 at 09:10 AM

DV

“ I’m sorry to hear of Glenn’s passing. He was the reason Roy and I moved to Iowa for Roy’s first job in a health care system. We made many life long friends there and it was all because of Glenn. He always had a kind word and bright smile. I’m thankful everyone from Iowa got to have a mini reunion 3 years ago. Glenn will be missed. I’m so sorry for your loss Barb. Allen and Ann. Dina Vinyard

Dina Vinyard - December 31, 2022 at 05:45 PM

JY

“ Glenn was the greatest person I have ever worked for in my 83 years. I will always remember his bringing me into healthcare in Cleveland--the best thing that ever-happened to me. It was so very good to see both of you in 2019. Jim

James R. Youngblood - December 30, 2022 at 05:21 PM

JM

“ Very sorry to hear of Glenn’s passing. He was a good guy and we enjoyed many times together while in Canton High School. He will be missed by many. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family. Jim and Dee Maynard

Jim Maynard - December 30, 2022 at 03:17 PM

LS

“ Dear Barb,  
Fred and I are so sorry for your loss. You are in our prayers.  
Linda Spagnolo and Fred Hite



Linda Spagnolo - December 30, 2022 at 02:54 PM