



## Glenn Allen Patchen

June 27, 1935 - November 5, 2012

Glenn Allen Patchen, MD, FACOG, 77, went to sleep peacefully, trusting in the Lord, on November 5, 2012 in Wenatchee, WA. Glenn struggled with advanced Parkinson's disease, but in spite of this, he remained a man who possessed great faith, hope, patience, and inner strength.

He was born in Coeur d'Alene, ID to Glenn and Helen Patchen on June 27, 1935 where he grew up on the family ranch in Careywood, ID. Later, his family moved to College Place, WA where his father took a position as an Engineering Professor at Walla Walla College. During Glenn's residency, his parents relocated to Wenatchee, WA where they lived for the remainder of their years. Glenn always loved visiting the Wenatchee area, enjoying the warm summers, cold winters, and beautiful surrounding mountains. However, he established his practice as a physician in the Renton, WA area, East of the Cascade's where he was a noted OB/GYN and leader in his community. He had fulfilled his dream of becoming a doctor and helping people. Ironically, he came full-circle spending his final two years in Wenatchee near his relatives, at RiverWest Retirement Community built just 2 blocks from his family home, which still stands today.

Stepping back in time, to his college years and medical training, it may be of interest to note that he graduated from Walla Walla College in 1957 with a major in Zoology. From there, he went on to Loma Linda University (LLU) in

California where he was awarded his Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) degree in 1961. He then moved to Portland, OR where he interned at the Portland Sanitarium, followed by 3 years of Family Practice. By that time, he had his own family with three children: two boys and a little girl. He returned to LLU between 1965-1968 to specialize as an Obstetrician/Gynecologist, completing his FACOG in Obstetrics and Gynecology. He always dreamed of becoming a missionary doctor and at one point in time, went to Chicago, passing rigorous boards, to receive licensure to practice abroad.

In 1968, Uncle Sam came knocking on his door and he was drafted, serving his country for two years as a Senior Surgeon at the U.S. Public Health Service facility on Beacon Hill (now known as Pacific Medical Center) in Seattle, WA. Glenn then began his practice as an OB/GYN in the Renton area, eventually establishing Valley Women's Clinic in 1976. The clinic remains today, providing the highest level of care, and still operating on its' founders principles: "Maintain the strictest integrity at all times, provide the best care, and keep your focus on the people...and they will take care of you."

During his career as an OB/GYN, Glenn delivered over 5,000 babies. He had a special gift in working with difficult infertility cases helping many conceive children they might otherwise not have had. He specialized in obstetrics because he enjoyed participating, first hand, in the miracle of life. He was compassionate, conscientious, and had a wonderful ability to listen to his patients. This was part of what made him special in their eyes.

He was also a noted surgeon and leader in the medical community, and is remembered as someone who touched many lives, professionally, and personally. He was the former Chief of the OB/GYN department at Valley Medical Center, served as a Clinical Associate Professor for the department of OB/GYN at the University of Washington in Seattle, was a member of the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, and authored various

articles for the Seattle GYN society publications.

As a leader in the Seattle Gynecological Society and the Washington State Obstetrical Association, both organizations repeatedly asked him to serve as President, but due to his religious beliefs and potential conflicts regarding the Sabbath, he told them he was unable to accept the position. He was a strong Seventh-day Adventist who lived and died trusting in the Lord and His promises...Ephesians 2:8, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God"; and in I Thess. 4:13-18 describing Christ's 2nd coming and the time when the "dead in Christ" will awaken and "rise to meet the Lord in the air". Glenn and his family look forward to the day when they will once again be reunited.

He loved the outdoors, traveling, golf, sports, music, and of course, helping others. His family remembers Dad playing the piano and joyfully singing songs that he loved, like "When the Roll is Called Up Yonder" and "The Old Rugged Cross". He will be lovingly remembered for everyone he touched, with his surgeon's hands, his compassion and heartfelt consideration, his positive outlook, and his deep trust in his personal Savior - Jesus Christ. He was about sharing, and he gave more than most over his lifetime.

He is survived by his wife, Valerie, his three children, Greg, Garth, and Genelle (Pepple), his brother Gary, sister Gloria (Kupferman), seven grandchildren, and seven nieces and nephews.

A memorial service and celebration of his life will be held after the first of the year in Renton, WA. For service details, condolence messages, to view or share photos, stories, or memories, please visit his online tribute at: [www.heritage Memorial Chapel.com](http://www.heritage Memorial Chapel.com).

# Tribute Wall

JR

“ I had the pleasure, the privilege and the honor of working for Dr. Patchen for 20 years. When he opened his OB/GYN practice in 1970 I was his first and only employee. I functioned in 2 roles over the years, RN for the first 10 years, then Practice Manager for the next 10 years. Glenn was probably the kindest man I ever knew. I learned so much from him, both clinically and personally. He was consistent in the professional yet genuine and gentle way he treated every patient. My life has been blessed by knowing him. It's been years now since he passed, but I'm sure his family continues to miss him. They remain in my thoughts and prayers.

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**Judy Robinson** - August 19, 2018 at 01:59 AM

RS

“ Glenn was my first Sabbath school teachers when I was a babtised as a SDA many years ago in the Renton church. Glenn is the basis of my beliefs today. He was such a inspiration then and today. He explained why my early beliefs where not based on scripture in such a clear way. I look forward to The resurrection where we will recognize each other and learn his new name.

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**Richard Sittner** - March 06, 2017 at 07:31 PM

EP

“ Dr. Patchen, I wish I could have met you. In 1981 you helped my mother conceive a child, and in 1982 I arrived on the scene. :) Saying "thank you" doesn't feel like enough. I wouldn't be here if it weren't for you. Rest in peace.

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**Esther Pischel** - January 22, 2017 at 01:35 AM

TB

“ I had the honor and pleasure of taking care of Glenn while he lived at RiverWest Assisted Living. He had a wonderful sense of humor, and a twinkle in the corner of his eye when he smiled. When i would joke around with Glenn he would always smile when I would make an announcement like a loud speaker and say Paging Dr. Patchen it's time for delivery! I love and miss you Glenn.

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**Tracy Bookwalter** - November 22, 2012 at 01:42 AM

CI

“ Uncle Glenn was a Kind, Thoughtful, Calm, Gentle, Generous and Intelligent man.  
When he married my Auntie Val I was just a little girl; and I remembered thinking how special he was, not only was I impressed with his tall stature, but the quality of his character, which ended up leaving a lasting impression on a little girl.  
He had a way of speaking to you as if you were the only one in the room...this was an amazing talent given his busy schedule.  
His gentle spirit and character qualities are the lasting legacy that you his family will carry with you, and this Spiritual Inheritance will make you wealthy in ways that cannot be measured this side of eternity, it is the... most valuable inheritance.  
God Bless you all, our hearts are there with you in your loss of a Father, Friend, Husband, Brother and Companion. He taught us all well, I was there listening and watching.....Cousin Cindy and Dino

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**Cindy** - November 14, 2012 at 01:39 AM