



Mr. Glenn Fields

May 20, 1945 - July 8, 2013

Our Dad, husband, brother, uncle, grandfather, and great friend died July 8, 2013 in Calgary at age 68, surrounded by family. He stared cancer down and had it running for cover for three years. Those who knew Glenn will nod and smile; he orchestrated the turning off of life-sustaining machines like the Chair of the Board of Directors - with great dignity because that was important to him.

We are sad, but we also celebrate a life immensely well lived. As Glenn said in his last few hours, "I lived 100 years of life...how great it's been." Glenn made the world a better place with his two decades of executive leadership at Industry Canada. He was educated...the kitchen table had many nights of lively hot button issues debate. He was funny....advised he should have been a stand-up comic in his last day of life, he replied – "Geez – I can't stand up!" He was a family man...always bringing us together in a world that tugs people apart. He was a man of deep character and integrity...a values guidepost that gives strong shape to long legacy. He travelled the globe, loved every fairway he golfed, never saw an Oilers, Jets, or World Junior hockey game he didn't like, and saw the world uniquely through his camera lens.

Perhaps most of all – he absolutely adored his wife Linda. They journeyed this earth together with vivid curiosity, determination, joy, and grace.

In the words of Tennyson, we are “heroic hearts made weak by time and fate but not in will; to strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield.” Glenn lived the words. We best honour Glenn’s spirit by recognizing what he would say, “We all live on borrowed time. Make the most of it. Get busy living the life you dream for yourself.”

Glenn is survived by his wife Linda, his sons Chris and wife Debbie, Dave and wife Dimitria, five grandchildren (Nicole, Ryan, Sophia, Jack, Maitreya), sister Gale, sister/brother in law Eileen and Heinz, and numerous nieces and nephews. He is predeceased by his parents Bill and Anne, parents-in-law Gordon and Joan, and brother in law Bill.

A “Celebration of Glenn’s Life” will be held at the Highwood Golf & Country Club (Wellman Room) in HIGH RIVER, Alberta the afternoon of Sunday, September 8, 2013.

Our wonderful Dad, husband, brother, uncle, grandpa and great friend left us much too soon.

Please join the family at 2:00 pm when we get the afternoon under way with a presentation-format “tip of our hat” to Glenn’s “life well lived.”

To help the family plan the gathering, please e-mail Linda by August 31, 2013 at fields@shaw.ca indicating whether or not you are able to join us.

Memorial donations may be made the High River Community Cancer Centre - 560 9th Ave. SW, High River, AB, T1V 1B3.

To send condolences and view Glenn’s Tribute Page please visit www.lylereeves.com . Caring for the family is Lyle Reeves Funerals of High River (Craig Snodgrass) 403.652.4242.

Previous Events

Reception Gathering

SEP 8. 2:00 PM (MT)

Highwood Golf & Country Club
400 7th Street NW
High River, AB (CA)
<http://www.highwoodgolf.com>

Tribute Wall

DM

“ *Linda, very sorry to hear of your loss, my thoughts are with you.*

Dal McCloy

Dal McCloy - January 10, 2014 at 05:16 PM

GT

“ *Sorry for your loss. May he live on in your memories*

Gordy, Natalie and Tsai - August 31, 2013 at 04:10 PM

RS

“ Linda, we were saddened to learn that Glenn had passed away. For us he is remembered as the guy whose personality always filled and lit the room.

I (Rick) have been thinking about Glenn's contribution to his profession during his days with the federal government. I very much enjoyed working with him and admired how he did his job. He led the economic development business with a great sense of what was strategically important. He was great at adding the analytical discipline to decisions but he brought a realistic, on the ground common sense practicality to his job.

I admired how he walked his own professional path. In bureaucracies it is too easy to lose your focus and sense of personal and professional direction. Glenn was a role model of us all, his direct reports and his provincial colleagues. I missed him when he retired and I hope I learned something from him in this regard.

Our heartfelt condolences to you and your family.

*Rick and Eunice Sloan
St Albert, AB*

Rick and Eunice Sloan - August 23, 2013 at 08:11 PM

RH

“ Dear Linda and family,

I would like to express my deepest condolences to you and your family on this very sad occasion.

I had known Glenn since our University of Manitoba- Geography Department days more than 40 years ago. There was a group of us in the Department who “hung around” together during that more carefree time in our lives. Glenn had always impressed me with his intelligence and willingness to help others. Although we had lost sight of each other since then, we had not lost touch. We stayed in contact through our yearly Christmas letters and cards, and so, I was happily surprised when he called “out of the blue”, may be last year, to chat. We had such a nice conversation; I will remember it for a long time.

My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Raina Ho, Ottawa

R Ho - August 03, 2013 at 01:48 PM

GR

“ Dear Linda & Family

June & George Rock were privileged to meet Glenn at, where else, the Highwood Golf Course here in High River shortly after the Fields moved here. As George had worked for Alberta Agriculture both men had experience working for government, however George would kid Glenn that “the Feds” always had better expense accounts than the “Provincials” and Glenn would retort that was because “the Feds” provided better value!

Though we didn't know him long he rapidly developed into one of our select few “good” friends. Clearly there were numerous reasons that he rapidly rose in the leadership ranks of Industry Canada. Among them, he was articulate and funny and could talk to anyone about anything. He had an uncommon blend of someone who had very good and well thought out opinions, (about almost everything) tempered with a remarkable ability to listen, not just to the words, but more importantly, the meaning. He then could confidently describe your opinion back to you, succinctly and better organized than you had provided to him in the first place. He would always talk about the idea, not the person, we never heard him make disparaging remarks about other people.

Glenn was one of the finer men we have ever known. He approached everything he did, like he did his golf swing, with great vim and vigour. He will be missed by all who knew him. Sincere condolences go to Linda, their two sons Chris & David as well as the daughter-in-laws and especially his grandchildren. He was very proud of their grandchildren and would, on occasion, regale you with stories of their latest accomplishments. One day on the golf course last year he commented on the cancer visiting him and said, “one of my big regrets is that I'll not be able to see my grandchildren grow and blossom as adults”.

George & June Rock - July 29, 2013 at 05:34 PM

IB

“ Dear Linda and Family

I was deeply saddened to hear of Glenn's passing. I had the terrific fortune to work with him and the team at Industry Canada. He was a highly intelligent, innovative and strong leader and always a team player. Further, I had the good fortune to play golf with Glenn at Shaughnessy in Vancouver and again with my 2 boys at wolf creek. To his delight I still tell the story of him complaining of incorrect yardage on a sprinkler head and the low probability that he was the first to discover the mistake. He was fully prepared to be the subject of the joke when asked if there was any chance he read the sprinkler head upside down (which of course he had).

One of the good guys.

*Ian Bruce
Vancouver*

ian bruce - July 23, 2013 at 01:22 PM

SC

“ Sincere sympathy to all the family.

I had the great privilege of working with Glenn in Edmonton. He had that rarest of leadership attributes--he really cared. As a leader and mentor, there was none better.

You are in my thoughts.

*Sincerely,
Shannon Campbell*

Shannon Campbell - July 21, 2013 at 03:27 PM

DL

“ Dear Linda and Family - It is truly difficult to say goodbye to someone who was still full of love of life and family. I did not get to know Glenn very well personally, having met him only once or twice, but having worked with you Linda for a time at Alberta Labour in the mid-1990s, I do remember knowing how much Glenn meant to you. My sincere sympathy Linda.

Lucie Leduc
St. Albert, AB

Don and Lucie Leduc - July 18, 2013 at 05:17 PM

CT

“ Our thoughts are with your family at this difficult time. Glenn will be greatly missed at the Golf Club. He was always so friendly and positive - a real pleasure to have around.



The Highwood Golf Family

Chad Thomlinson - July 17, 2013 at 09:51 AM

BJ

“ Dear Linda & Family
Please accept our most heartfelt condolences
We were in Okotoks & High River at Christmas and even looked up your number to call but life gets busy and we say we will call next time. How sorry we are now that we did not make that extra effort. I still have great memories of Glenn, Mike & I sharing an apartment in St Vital and of our trip to Riding Mountain. Know that you are all in our thoughts and prayers

Brian & Heather Jacques

Brian Jacques - July 15, 2013 at 05:08 PM

KH

“ I am very sad to hear the news of Glenn's passing and extend my deepest sympathies to all of his family and friends.

I was very fortunate to have had the opportunity and the honour to have Glenn as an executive leadership coach for a year soon after he retired from the Government of Canada. It became immediately apparent to me that Glenn was a person of integrity, a natural leader, and an individual with a passion for helping others achieve their full potential. He had a special knack of knowing when to listen, when to share his own experiences, and when to challenge. I am grateful that our paths came together along the way and I was able to learn from his wisdom and benefit from his strength of character.

Kelvin Hirsch, Edmonton, AB

Kelvin Hirsch - July 15, 2013 at 04:55 PM

WG

“ Our sympathies to you, Linda, and your family. We have fond memories of Glenn and our thoughts are with you at this time.

Wendy and Rob Geiger

Wendy Geiger - July 15, 2013 at 01:08 PM

EL

“ My condolences to you and your family. It is sad to see him gone so early. I've had the pleasure to work with Glenn on the People Strategy and the his Regional office (IC). Working with him was inspiring. He truly believed in people and was able to get best out of everyone. My prayers are with you.



Elvira Langa-Barona - July 15, 2013 at 10:43 AM

CH

“ Linda,

So sorry of your loss. There are surely no words that will help but know that Ross and t are thinking of you and your family at this time.

With mich sadness,

Carol Hopkins

Carol Hopkins - July 15, 2013 at 10:37 AM

GS

“ Linda;

My heart is saddened for you and your family today. While I did not know Glenn well, I certainly appreciate the long standing friendship we have shared through our work with IPMA-Canada. During that time you talked so proudly of Glenn and of your family and how you loved to travel together. I remember so many stories of your trips to Hawaii, the Dakotas and of your wonderful times together as a family in your beloved Alberta.

Then along came the beautiful grandchildren and how proudly you talked of the times you and Glenn spent with them. Our thoughts are with you and your family. Remember to cherish the memories and to celebrate his life as you know he would want you and your family to do.

Love,

Glenn and Yetta Saunders

Mount Pearl, NL

Glenn Saunders - July 15, 2013 at 10:17 AM

LB

“ Hi Linda & family - so sorry to hear of Glenn's passing. Please accept my sincere condolences. Lynn Burgess (NS)

Lynn Burgess - July 15, 2013 at 09:57 AM

BP

“ Dear Linda, Chris, Dave and Family,

At a time when I find myself searching for words, you have done an incredible job in crafting Glenn's obituary and have beautifully described his life; "a life immensely well lived". You were all a constant source of love and pride for Glenn and even now, you continue to do him proud.

Glenn cherished his many friendships and I am so very grateful to have known him since we met at University, more than 40 years ago. There are no friends like old friends and even though it was sometimes years between visits, he had a way of making it seem like we had never been apart.

Please accept our deep and heartfelt sympathy.

Bruce and Nella Popko

Bruce and Nella Popko - July 14, 2013 at 08:54 PM

KF

“ Linda and family,
So very sorry to learn of Glenn's passing. We remember the great times we had together with the "Almost Every Other Friday Night Bridge" games. Glenn's humor brought new language to the game; doing the "spousal thing" first and taking tricks with a "key ten". He was so proud of David and Chris and their families, updating us on them even that last time we saw you for a quick visit when you passed through our neighborhood the summer before you moved. May your own memories of Glenn warm you and sustain you through this time.

Kathryn and Ken Forth

Kathryn and Ken Forth - July 14, 2013 at 04:13 PM

MG

“ Linda and family, How sad it was to read of Glenn's crossing. He was a great guy and he will be missed by many without a doubt. My heart and prayer of healing goes out to you and your family at this time. God Bless,

Marlene Gibb

Marlene Gibb - July 14, 2013 at 03:22 PM



JK

“ *To Linda, the boys, and their families,
We were stunned to receive the call from the Mays and want to send you our heartfelt sympathy for your loss. We have lost a fine friend but we know that doesn't nearly touch your loss. Remember those times with the football gang and the fun we had a million years ago at Bomber games with all our cheap tickets. Then there were the weekends in Saskatoon, and the time we showed you a little of Edmonton when you first moved here. So many good times.... Good memories.... Even to putting our fingers in the dike of your basement walls the day of the Edmonton tornado. We are thinking of you now and want you to know that we would help any way we can. Glenn was such a fine man. Cherish the memories.*
Judy and Bill Kesanko
Spruce Grove, Alberta

Judy and Bill Kesanko - July 13, 2013 at 11:06 PM

AG

“ *I would like to send my heartfelt condolences to Linda and the family at this time of great loss. I was a friend and colleague of Glenn's and respected his leadership and professional approach to all things that he undertook.*
Industry Canada and NRC were very close in Alberta and we worked on many initiatives together. Glenn was a wonderful partner and he will be remembered by all those who knew him as a unique and very fine person.
He often spoke about his family, and obviously loved them all.
With my very best wishes to you all; may you find comfort and love to sustain through this difficult time.
Sincerely, Andrew W. Gilliland, P.Eng., FEC. Formerly Regional Director, NRC.

Andrew W. Gilliland - July 13, 2013 at 05:02 PM

WK

“ Linda and family, we have not been in touch for several years, but spent many years being neighbours as our kids were young in Riverbend. What a shock when we read of Glenn's passing. We remember him exactly as described in his obituary, very funny, very kind and a very nice man. Our thoughts and prayers are with you as you make this transition to life without your "love" please know we are thinking of you.



Wally & Jennifer Kirk

wally & jennifer kirk - July 13, 2013 at 02:49 PM

BJ

“ Linda,
We were deeply saddened to read of Glenn's passing in our paper yesterday.
It has left a hole in our hearts.
Glenn reached out his hand of friendship to us when we were newcomers to Edmonton. We came to highly respect his warmth, his humour and his intellect.
Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Bob and Bev Johnston, Headingley

Beverley Johnston - July 13, 2013 at 08:35 AM

JM

“ Linda, I am so saddened to hear that Glenn's beautiful time with you has come to an end and so grateful to have had both you and him as our friends for so many wonderful years. I know he's left you, and his loving family with so many happy memories and that those thoughts will help you through the sad days. My heart is with you and the boys and their families - I will keep you all in my prayers

Joan Mackay

Joan Mackay - July 13, 2013 at 08:21 AM

JM

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Joan Mackay - July 13, 2013 at 08:12 AM

GB

“ Linda, Our most sincere sympathy to you in the loss of your soul mate, Glen. May you find your many happy memories sustain you in the days ahead.

Glen and Brenda Baron - July 13, 2013 at 12:04 AM

DF

“ Linda. I have been out of touch for several years so was saddened to hear of Glenn's passing. We go back 40 years to the U of M Geography department days when we became such great friends. The geography years were memorable both on and off campus and even included a fantastic trip to Barbados. Back then when most of us had no clue where we were heading in life Glenn was determined to succeed.... perhaps it had to do with the fact that he was brighter than most of us. :-)
Everytime I think of Glenn it brings a smile to my face. The world has lost one of the good ones. Don Finkbeiner, Winnipeg

Don Finkbeiner - July 12, 2013 at 03:41 PM

KM

“ Linda and family. It is so sad to hear about Glenn's passing. I remember Glenn as being the type of guy, who after meeting him for the first time, a few hours later, you felt like he was your best buddy. He was a considerate and masterful leader, who supported and took care of his own. The Saskatoon office was never the same after Glenn left for Edmonton. Like it was yesterday, I remember debating with him as to which one of us had drafted the best team in our hockey pools and if the Oilers and Jets were not the best, then who was? I remember numerous conversations about the greatness of Canada. But, most of all, I remember Glenn being a gentleman's gentleman.

Ken McDonnell - Saskatoon

Ken McDonnell - July 12, 2013 at 02:48 PM

JO

“ Deepest sympathy to Linda and family. I worked with Glenn in Saskatoon and he was one of a kind, a man who walked the walk when it came to valuing his people. He inspired us, he believed in us and we loved him for it. It was great privilege to spend part of my career under his leadership. He was our fearless leader in so many ways and will be missed. Joyce Olson - Saskatoon

Joyce Olson - July 12, 2013 at 02:30 PM

BH

“ Was deeply saddened to learn of Glenn's passing. The news prompted strong memories of a colleague who became a friend and helped me understand the realities of socio-economic development in northern Manitoba. He was fun loving and a pleasure to work with. Heart-felt condolences to the family.

Bill Henderson, Winnipeg

Bill Henderson - July 12, 2013 at 12:34 PM

CH

“ My heart aches for the Fields family with the loss of this great man, as do I. All the years I worked with Glenn, and all the special projects, I found that I could do more because he thought I could do it. If that makes any sense. Great man in all ways. Christine - IC

Christine - July 12, 2013 at 10:16 AM

RC

“ Linda and family - my deepest condolences and sympathy for your loss of Glenn. My thoughts and prayers with you at this difficult time.

Raymond Chow

Ray Chow - July 12, 2013 at 09:06 AM

BD

“ It was a great honour to have had the opportunity to work with Glenn on a number of projects while we were both with Industry Canada. He always had the energy and enthusiasm essential to advance these projects and devoted his exceptional leadership capabilities to them with great effect. It was always a pleasure to work with Glenn - he had a fine sense of humour and an openness to new ideas that led to innovative ideas being advanced by staff at all levels. . He was a great colleague and personal friend. He offered wise advice on many issues and never hesitated to step in and help others in our organization. Glenn was admired and respected by all.

My sincere condolences to Linda and family.

*Bruce Drake
Former Exective Director
Pacific Region
Industry Canada*

bruce Drake - July 11, 2013 at 08:09 PM

DO

“ 1 file added to the album *Tribute wall*



Doug - July 11, 2013 at 05:27 PM

DO

“ 1 file added to the album *Tribute wall*



Doug - July 11, 2013 at 05:25 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album *Tribute wall*



Doug - July 11, 2013 at 05:23 PM

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Doug - July 11, 2013 at 05:09 PM

DO

“ 1 file added to the album *Tribute wall*



Doug - July 11, 2013 at 05:06 PM

DO

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Doug - July 11, 2013 at 05:04 PM

DC

“ Linda, Chris & family, Dave & family:
We reach out to all of you at this time of loss of your husband, father and good friend to so many of us. We have spent many happy time together traveling to Poland for our son's wedding as part of our "team-Canada", to Africa, Meadow Lake, Phoenix and elsewhere, many laughter-filled evenings at hockey games, playing cards, debating events of the time, discussing the stock markets, doing business together in Edmonton downtown, enjoying wine and dinners.....and there were so many of these things yet to do. We will miss Glenn and all he brought to life and our relationship with him. He was a good friend and lived a life well spent. To all of you left behind, know that we are thinking about you and, while inadequate, offer our help to you in any way we can serve. We will be forever grateful that Glenn was able to stay in our home to celebrate his birthday and see so many friends in May. It will leave us all with good final memories of him. Love and prayers to you all.
Doug & Marietta Clement, Chris & Heidi Clement and Paul and Agnieszka Clement.

Doug & Marietta Clement - July 11, 2013 at 04:19 PM

SC

“ Linda and family, please accept our sincere sympathies. I worked with Glenn here in Winnipeg many years ago on major fed/prov projects and then when he became our "fearless leader" at Industry Canada, supportive of us in good times and even more supportive in difficult times, remaining a friend and supporter even after our paths diverged. He was a gentleman and a champion. I bet he is up there right now with Cliff Mackay, another champion lost too soon, moving the heavens, having one of their famous and passionate discussions on matters of industrial and development policy.
Take care, we'll miss him with you.
Shannon and Les Coughlin

Shannon Coughlin - July 11, 2013 at 01:11 PM

DH

“ Linda, Chris, Dave and Families, I'm so sorry to hear of Glenn's passing. He was one of a kind, and I will miss our chats and laughs. He was very dedicated to Industry Canada, and believed in his people, and what they could do. You can be proud of the mark he left here and on life in general for many people. I met him 30 years ago and I can tell you "he made a difference for many".
Our prayers and our sympathy
Deb and Ken Hogg, Saskatoon

Deb Hogg - July 09, 2013 at 03:12 PM

JH

Dear Linda and Family,

I was so sorry to hear of Glenn's passing.

Working for Glenn in Industry Canada was a highlight of my career. He set the example of what a government leader should be--one who served Canadians with dedication and excellence, offered sincere, considered advice, and cared for "his people". He was a dynamic and inspiring leader who encouraged everyone throughout the organization to participate, debate and collaborate on ways to improve our work and working life. He also shared a wonderful, sometimes mischevious, sense of humor and appreciation of the absurd which enlived the spirit and humanity of the organization.

In your sorrow, I hope it's comforting to know that so many of us remember Glenn so fondly as an admirable leader and outstanding man.

*With deepest sympathy,
Jessie Hislop
Calgary*

Jessie Hislop - August 05, 2013 at 07:00 PM