



## Mr. Glenn Osmond McNeal Jr.

January 2, 1937 - April 20, 2020

Glenn Osmond McNeal, Jr., 83 of Arab went to be with his Heavenly Father on April 20, 2020 after a courageous three year battle with stage 4 kidney cancer.

Glenn was born January 2, 1937, the son of Glenn McNeal Sr. and Berniece McNeal. He was preceded in death by his parents, sister Gayle (McNeal) Garner and first born son Danny McNeal. In 1955, Glenn graduated from Paris High School in Arkansas where he lettered in both football and track. He served in the U.S. Army as an electronics technician and then had a distinguished 35 year career at Redstone Arsenal finishing his career at the Army Materiel Command in supporting both the Hawk and Patriot Missile Foreign Military Sales Programs retiring as a Supervisor/International Program Management Specialist GS-15. He was also an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed camping, hunting and fishing. His semi-professional pursuits included stock car racing in the 1960s against Bobby Allison and others and won two national championships in his age division in the sport of motorcycle trials in the 1980s. In addition, he was inducted to the North American Trials Council and the Southeastern Trials Riders Association 'Hall of Fame'. Most recently he served as a board member for Marshall County RSVP.

He was a faithful member and volunteer of Arab First United Methodist Church and the 'Class of our Redeemer' for 58 years. Glenn is best known for his kind and encouraging spirit, generosity and friendship to all he met. His faith was the anchor of his life and time with family brought him so much joy.

He is survived by his wife of 63 years Cherie McNeal of Arab; three sons and their families: Michael and his wife, Jane and grandson, Michael, Jr.; Steve and his wife Laura, granddaughter, Raegan and grandsons, Logan and Jacob; Tom and his wife, Kerrie, granddaughters, Caroline, Olivia and Katherine; granddaughter: Amanda (McNeal) Cole and husband Jesse, and great granddaughter, Kaitlin; granddaughter: Tammy (McNeal) Willis and husband Greg, and great granddaughter, Josie and great grandson, Sam; he is also survived by his two brothers and their families: Larry and Judy McNeal and David and Alice McNeal along with many nieces, nephews and dear friends across the country and world.

With care and concern for all during the current pandemic, a memorial celebration of Glenn's life will be announced and held at a later date. Arab Heritage Memorial Chapel, assisting.

To honor the memory of Glenn his family has requested that in lieu-of-flowers, donations be made to the Arab First United Methodist Church Building Fund or Shepherd's Cove Hospice of Albertville who took great care of Glenn in his last days.

# Comments

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“ Glen certainly extended the right hand of Christian fellowship to me and I am forever grateful. My deepest sympathies to the McNeal family and the Arab First UMC community.

**Brian Jimenez** - April 30, 2020 at 10:23 PM



“ Brian, how did you get to know Dad?

**tom mcneal** - May 21, 2020 at 08:44 PM

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“ Mr McNeal and his boys were a very positive influence on me when I got a chance to be around them at the motorcycle events. Their can do attitude was always present and they all seemed to push each other to be the best without being too busy to help a rookie rider and give some great advice. Thanks for all you did Mr McNeal.. Jamie Gourley.

**Jamie Gourley** - April 21, 2020 at 01:41 PM



“ Thank you for your kind words and friendship Jamie.

**Tom McNeal** - April 23, 2020 at 10:38 AM



“ Dad would have liked your comment about positive attitude. He got that from his mom and dad.

**Steve** - April 25, 2020 at 11:22 AM

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“ I remember how Glenn used to bring Cherie to the fellowship hall every Sunday morning for Sunday school. He would help her out of the car and into the church. He showed his love for her. A trait far more important than just saying I love you. I hope I can be half the man you are Glenn. God Bless!

**Jim Saunders**

**Jim Saunders** - April 21, 2020 at 08:07 AM



“ Thank you Jim. He was a great caregiver to her for almost 64 years.

**Tom McNeal** - April 23, 2020 at 10:39 AM

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“ My best memory of your daddy was that of my diving coach in the mid 60's. He became my boss in the mid 80's. During an interview for his retirement I told the interviewer that I'm sure I am supposed to say he was a better boss than a diving coach but I wasn't sure I believed it. No way you can compare the two. He was a great man in both capacities and I am praying for his much loved family.

**Peggy Bagwell Binning** - April 20, 2020 at 11:51 PM



“ My first memory of Glenn was when i worked for his son at Piggly Wiggly in Arab, AL. I also worked with his grand daughter, Tammy, i had invited her to church. His son (my boss) introduced me to him, few weeks passed & Glenn thanked me for the influence i had made in Tammy's life. Few years later my family i joined the church at the invite of other friends, where Glenn & Cherrie were also members. We sat right in front of them during worship services, I'll never forget during those services how his voice behind me during songs, prayers & other things was so sincere. I want to thank him for the sincerity of love for God & his family he showed me all those years ago just by saying thanks for inviting someone to church. Never thought about how an invite to church could make so much difference in some one elses life (besides the one you invite) until Glenn. He prayed, loved, worked, cared for not just his family but friends too. God needed him as another angel watching over us.

**Laurie Wright** - April 21, 2020 at 04:11 PM



“ Peggy, I shared this story with Mom and she remembered the diving story.

Laurie, thanks so much for sharing that sweet story. Sharing with Mom this morning

**Tom McNeal** - April 23, 2020 at 10:41 AM

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“ Glenn was a good friend and cared about his family and city. I had the pleasure of delivering his family mail for 18 years. My prayers and thought go to Cherie and his family.

Johnny Hart

**Johnny Hart** - April 20, 2020 at 03:47 PM



“ Prayers are going out to Cherie and family. I know he suffered a long time with his cancer. He is now in a better place with our savior. Love to all the family.

**Dee Rowley** - April 20, 2020 at 04:29 PM



“ Linn and I are so sad to hear of Glenn's passing. He was always a delight and he was such a blessing to Mr. Brannon who was in his Sunday School class for many years. I also knew Glenn from work at SAMD in foreign military sales. I can still see him hurrying up and down the hallway to get his job done as division chief. We will miss him dearly. God bless you, Sherie, and your entire family.

**Linn and Carolyn Brannon** - April 20, 2020 at 04:48 PM



“ Johnny/Dee/Linn/Carolyn- thank you for being friends to our family and especially my parents all these years. God bless you

**Tom McNeal** - April 23, 2020 at 10:42 AM



“ Dad had commented how you always had a smile and warm greeting. Dad noticed and always commented on people's positive traits. Thank you for th kind words.

**Steve** - April 25, 2020 at 11:26 AM



“ Always knew Mr. McNeal, but had come to know him particularly better these last few years. Came to really adore and respect him even more. He was always positive and upbeat, and. Uplifting toward others. Always had a good things to say about people. He really accentuated the positive. That made him a delight to be around. Always enjoyed seeing him coming, and having a word with him. He truly loved his family. And I know he loved all in his extended world, his church, co-workers, and community in general. He did some great work for RSVP most recently. A dear man. Sad to lose him. But I'm glad his suffering. Is over. My thoughts, prayers and. Blessings go out to all the McNeal family. — Alan Miller

**Alan Miller** - May 01, 2020 at 01:09 PM