



Glenn Allen Blackwell

NOV 14, 1951 - SEP 20, 2022



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Glenn Allen Blackwell

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CSM (Ret) Glenn A. Blackwell was called home on September 20, 2022, after a diagnosis of adenocarcinoma lung cancer a few short months ago. Glenn was in the presence and love of his family in the days and weeks leading up to his passing. He will be forever loved and remembered as a great leader, loving husband, father, and grandfather.

Glenn was born on November 14, 1951, in Staunton, Virginia. He was positively influenced as a child and teenager by the Covington Boys Home where he resided as a young boy. Glenn met the love of his life of 52 years, Linda Harshbarger Blackwell, at Fort Defiance High School in Fort Defiance, Virginia where he was an accomplished athlete in football, basketball, and baseball. He and Linda were married on January 16, 1971. Shortly after the union of marriage, Glenn was drafted into the United States Army during the Vietnam Era. He proudly and obediently served his country for 22 years before retiring as a Command Sergeant Major in 1993. Glenn mentored thousands of soldiers and devoted his life to his country and God. He was recognized by The United States Army with honorable service, a National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Service Star, Southwest Asia Service Medal accompanied by two Bronze Service Stars, the Saudi Arabia Kuwait Liberation Medal, and countless other personal and unit decorations. After retiring from the United States Army, Glenn spent the remainder of his life in trade work of equine farming, woodworking, construction, and cheering for the Virginia Tech Hokies.

Glenn and Linda made their permanent home in Virginia in 1993, and recently moved to Lewes, Delaware to enjoy life at the beach. He enjoyed spending time with his family, particularly his grandchildren. He loved tinkering in his garage and on his boat.

Perhaps no better joy in his life than his children: Stephanie and Rob Lane (Staunton, Virginia); Michelle and Brian Ray (Wilmington, DE); Beth and Dane Sheely Jr. (Catawba, VA.); and his nine grandchildren who lovingly called him Goddy: Nathaniel, Matthew, Anna Grace, Emma, Eleanor, Sara, Avery, Emma, and Anderson. In addition to his immediate family, Glenn loved the



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company of his dearest friends, Dean and Theresa Waldroup (Hayesville, NC), and Jim and Julie Robinson (Clintwood, VA). He had a deep love for his dog Gunner.

Glenn was preceded in death by his father and mother-in-law, Dallas, and Jean Harshbarger; his sister-in-law, Susan Wine; his parents, Clarence Blackwell, and Betty Jo McClain; his brother, Dale Blackwell; and his sister, LeAnn Castle.

A funeral service to celebrate Glenn's life will be held on Friday, September 23, 2022, at 7:00 PM at Parsell Funeral Homes and Crematorium, Atkins -Lodge Chapel, Lewes, DE, where friends may call beginning at 6:00 PM.

All who cannot attend in person are invited to join the services via live streaming by visiting the following link: <http://www.parsellfuneralhomes.com/obituaries/permalink/10672702/LTWebcast>.

As a proud, decorated veteran of the United States Army, Glenn's wishes are to be buried at Arlington National Cemetery. A full honors burial is expected at a later date. Once arrangements are confirmed by Arlington National Cemetery, the family will notify loved ones who wish to attend an honorable celebration of his life in the nation's capital.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in Glenn's memory to the National Down Syndrome Society, <https://give.ndss.org/GlennB> or 1155 15th NW, Suite 540, Washington, DC 20005, as a tribute to his grandson, Matthew Ray, or to the Covington Boys Home, 414 Boys Home Road, Covington, VA 24426, a community that provided a safe space during his childhood.

Please sign the virtual guestbook located on the tribute page.

FLORAL NOTE: PLEASE DELIVER ALL ARRANGEMENTS BY 3:00 PM ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2022, TO OUR FUNERAL HOME IN LEWES.



Events

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Viewing

 **Friday**, September 23, 2022

 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM ET

 **Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium-Atkins-Lodge Chapel**

16961 Kings Highway, Lewes DE 19958



Funeral Service

 **Friday**, September 23, 2022

 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM ET

 **Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium-Atkins-Lodge Chapel**

16961 Kings Highway, Lewes DE 19958





Tribute Wall

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Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium shared a **Webcast Video**.



September 21 at 11:35 AM



Byron D. Bryant posted:

I am shocked and saddened to learn of Glenn's death. Glenn was my Command Sergeant Major as I was the Battalion Commander in the 1st Battalion 17th Field Artillery. He was a great man and my battle buddy as we deployed to combat in Operation Desert Storm. A great soldier.

October 21 at 8:17 PM



Charles Landrum posted:

I had the honor of serving with this great man twice, once in Germany and again at Fort Sill, Oklahoma when I served as a Drill Sergeant. I saw up close his career as a Staff Sergeant and later as my First Sergeant. I was a troubled individual in Germany as a Specialist Four. Sergeant Blackwell saw something in me and took me under his wings and did far more than show me how to be a good soldier but how to be a good man. I went on to complete 11 years of active duty, reaching SFC myself, and five years in the Reserves including during Desert Storm. I then finished college and Seminary and served as a Senior Pastor for 35 years until my retirement last year. I cannot ever thank him enough for his love and care for me.

December 29 at 10:37 PM



Robert J. Crum 13F 4/29Th Fa posted:

One of the greatest men I ever had to privilege to work with. He taught a soldier not to be just a soldier, but how to be a good soldier. I hope he has all of those squirrels running around with their weapons for P.T.

September 26 at 1:17 PM



Lisa Bottenfield posted:

Beautiful service in honor of Glenn. So evident that Goddy was loved by many. I remember that young man in uniform at my Aunt Jean's house. He was pretty impressive. Love to you all.

September 23 at 4:09 PM



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DS

Dr. Brian Schaeffer posted:

Rest well soldier, your watch has ended. We will take the post from here. My prayers for the family on such a great lose. I recall him in passing while at the rock. Truly a legend. Trees moved when he entered the forests of Grafenwhoer and the sound of young soldiers rapidly getting themselves together broke the silence. They just don't make them like him anymore.

September 23 at 9:02 AM



Karen Saufley Warren September 25 at 3:56 AM

Take time to just take a walk on the beach...



Karen Saufley Warren September 25 at 3:53 AM

Linda, I so wish I could give you a hug today. Know that you will be in my thoughts and prayers for God to give you strength during these difficult days. Cherish the beautiful memories you and Glenn made together. If you are ever in Virginia, please let me know. I will never forget the last time I saw you. Take care...sending love...

DB

Deborah Blackwell posted:

Glenn was my late husband Frankie's cousin. He too passed away from the nasty cancer over # years ago. My thoughts and prayers are with your family. And Glenn with your new wings, I thank you for your service to our country. Debbie Blackwell

September 23 at 8:05 AM

VK

Vicki King posted:

My deepest sympathy on Glenn's passing. Many fond memories of his visits to New Hope Grocery. By all accounts, his was a life well lived.

September 23 at 5:27 AM

DB

David Berry posted:

Honoring!! RIP!!

September 22 at 9:04 AM



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Jessie lit a candle in honor of Glenn.

Can't thank Goddy enough for allowing Smiley Gus (my horse) to stay on their farm in Verona while I was in college. Thank you for also always making the farm and your family feel like mine when I was away from home. Will never forget my time out there with you all.

September 22 at 4:58 AM



Jim And Julie sent a Serene Retreat to the Blackwell family.

September 21 at 2:02 PM





Media

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Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium shared a **Webcast Video**.

September 21 at 11:35 AM



Derek Cepeda October 19 at 2:15 AM

Verus et Fedelis, CSM you made us all better men and soldiers. Rest In Peace and condolences to your family. You will be greatly missed by many but forever remembered by the soldiers you led. In our eyes you are the epitome of an NCO, you are the measure every other NCO is compared to. Thank you for your service. It was a great honor to serve under you. Sincerely, Derek & Family



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Glenn by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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