

Glenn Lea

September 15, 1935 - September 28, 2016

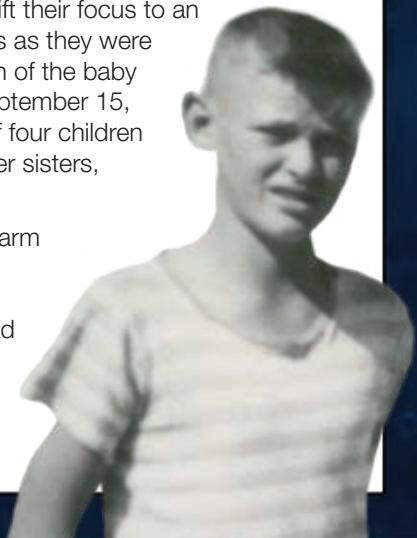
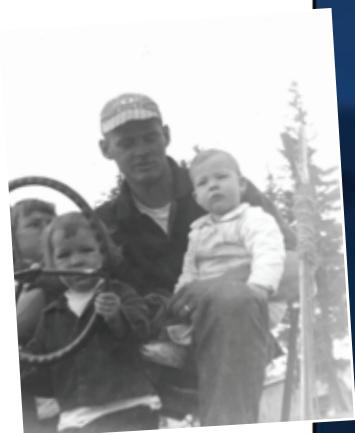


Glenn's Life Story

All who knew Glenn Lea would agree that he was the heartbeat of wherever he was. With a contagious zest for life, he was a gifted jokester who loved making sure that those around him enjoyed life as much as he did. A devoted family man, Glenn was blessed to share the majority of his journey with his true love, and together they experienced so many of the best things that life has to offer. Although he treasured his roles as a husband and father, Glenn just might have argued that nothing was better than becoming a grandfather and great-grandfather. Life will never be the same without him here, but Glenn leaves behind a timeless legacy that his loved ones will proudly carry on in his footsteps.

The 1930s were some of the most trying days we have faced as a nation as the entire decade was cloaked in the hardship of the Great Depression. Jobs were scarce, the unemployment rate soared, and things only went from bad to worse when a crippling drought covered our nation's heartland for nearly two years, adding strain to an already hurting agricultural industry. Despite the trials around them, Albert and Gladys (Thorud) Lea were able to shift their focus to an exciting time in their own lives as they were pleased to announce the birth of the baby boy they named Glenn on September 15, 1935. He was the youngest of four children in his family and had three older sisters, Delores, Lavina, and Phyllis.

Born and raised on the family farm south of Peterson, Glenn was a typical young boy of his generation. Their homestead had been in the Lea family since the 1850s, which was something Glenn was proud of. Tragedy struck when Glenn was only

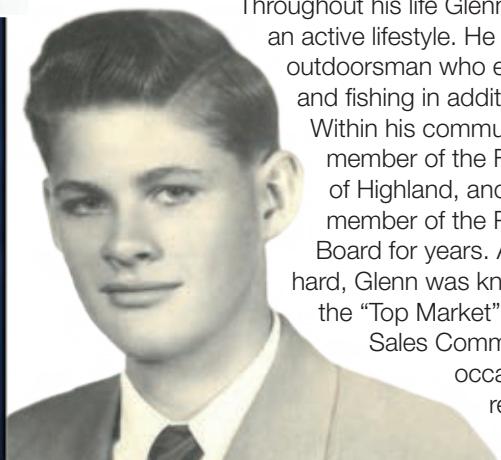




five months old with the death of his father. As a student Glenn attended local schools, and he graduated from Peterson High School in 1953.

New and exciting changes were in store for Glenn when he met the young girl of his dreams. Her name was Margaret Rebecca, and when she got into the car for their first date she sat on the opposite side of the front seat. Glenn said, "Why don't you move over to me--we're not married yet." That date led to more, and it wasn't long before the couple found themselves deeply in love. With a desire to establish a life together they were married in 1956. Together they welcomed eight children including Kathy, Danny, Patty, Michael, Darryl, Anita, Steven, and Susie into their hearts and home. Glenn made a career farming on the Lea homestead located to the south of Peterson. He truly enjoyed planting and harvesting his crops. Glenn took his role as the provider in his family to heart, and he worked tirelessly to provide a nice life for his wife and children. Later in life he was thrilled to become a grandfather, and he made being part of the lives of his grandchildren a priority. Glenn loved playing with them when they were younger, and he did his best to make it to as many of their high school events and activities as he could.

Throughout his life Glenn maintained an active lifestyle. He was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed deer hunting and fishing in addition to farming. Within his community Glenn was a member of the First Lutheran Church of Highland, and he had been a member of the Peterson School Board for years. Always one to work hard, Glenn was known for having the "Top Market" at the Lanesboro Sales Commission on several occasions. When relaxing, he enjoyed watching westerns.





Kind, witty, and a gentle soul, Glenn Lea was a blessing in the lives of everyone he met. He had the best sense of humor, and there was nothing he loved more than sharing it. Glenn was also hardworking with a great imagination and a desire to do everything to the best of his ability. It was easy to see that he loved kids, and a better grandfather would be hard to find. Deeply loved, Glenn will be forever missed.

Glenn A. Lea, of rural Peterson, MN, died on Wednesday, September 28, 2016, at Gundersen Health System in La Crosse, WI. Glenn's family includes his wife, Margaret; eight children: Kathy (Kim) Chiglo of Peterson, Danny Lea of Peterson, Patty (Clair) Olson of Rushford, MN, Michael Lea of Peterson, Darryl Lea of Peterson, Anita (Keith) Brown of Lanesboro, MN, Steven (Linda) Lea of Rushford, and Susie (Merv) Moen of Lanesboro; 23 grandchildren: Kyle, Katie, Kami, Kayla, Kristi, Kelcie, Andrew, Dana, Lindsay, Jarad, Brittany, Jana, Stephanie, Matthew, Jordan, Justin, Nikki, Taiya, Blake, Audra, Kole, Cassidy, Boone; 29 great grandchildren; sister, Phyllis (Don) Abrahams of Bloomington, MN; and by many nieces, nephews and cousins. Glenn was preceded in death by his parents, Albert and Gladys (Thorud) Lea; two sisters and their husbands, Delores (Herbert) Fowkes, and Lavina (Earl) Tikal. There will be a memorial service for Glenn at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 4, at the First Lutheran Church of Highland with the Rev. Roger Michaelson officiating. Burial will be at the church cemetery. Visitation will be from 12:30-2:00 p.m. on Tuesday at the church. Leave a memory of Glenn and sign his online guestbook at www.hofffuneral.com



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