



Pastor Glenn A Butler

October 6, 1950 - December 26, 2018

On Wednesday, December 26, 2018, Glenn A. Butler, loving husband and father of two children, passed away at the age of 68. Glenn was born on October 6, 1950 in Tacoma, Washington to Claude and Alma (Homolka) Butler. He earned an undergraduate degree in History from Vanderbilt University in 1972 and a second degree from the University of Alabama in Accounting in 1973. After receiving a call into ministry, he completed his Masters' of Divinity from Southern Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky in 1980.

Upon graduation from Carroll High School in Ozark, Alabama in 1968, Glenn was named the All-State Basketball Player of the Year. He accepted a scholarship and lettered for the Commodore Men's Basketball program during his years at Vanderbilt University, and was also initiated into the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity. In 1999, he was honored for his basketball achievements by being inducted into the Wiregrass Sports Hall of Fame.

Glenn served 38 years as an ordained minister in the Alabama West Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church. His appointments include: Beatrice, Peterman, and Pine Orchard, Charge (1980 – 1982); Mulder Memorial United Methodist Church, Wetumpka, Alabama (1982 – 1989); First United Methodist Church (Associate Pastor), Prattville, Alabama (1989 – 1993); Luverne United Methodist Church, Luverne, Alabama (1993 – 1996);

St. Luke United Methodist Church, Enterprise, Alabama (1996 – 2009); Gulf Shores United Methodist Church, Gulf Shores, Alabama (2009 – 2018).

Throughout his ministry he provided leadership through Bible study, pastoral care, mission outreach, building programs, church visioning, and astute financial management. He cared for every person attending the church - the ministry to every person was important to Glenn.

On June 7, 1980 Glenn married Shery Kendall and they raised one son, Ethan Benjamin and one daughter, Emma Evelyn. Glenn was beloved by his family for his wisdom, humility, humor, gentle, calm demeanor, and caring provision throughout his life. He was fondly known as “Bear” to his college and lifelong friends. Glenn exquisitely modeled how to love by sacrificial gifts of time and patience.

He is preceded in death by his father, Claude, and his mother, Alma. He is survived by his wife, Shery, and one daughter, Emma and one son, Ethan (Beth), and his two grandchildren Kaiden and Anastasia. He is also survived by his older brother Ralph Dennis (Diane).

A Service of Death and Resurrection for Glenn A. Butler will be held on Saturday December 29, 2018 at Gulf Shores United Methodist Church at 11 A.M. Donations in Glenn’s memory may be made to the Gulf Shores United Methodist Church Endowment Build 2018 Fund. <https://pushpay.com/g/gulfshoresumc?src=hpp>

Arrangements are entrusted to Cason Funeral Service in Foley Alabama

Previous Events

Memorial Service

DEC **29**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Gulf Shores United Methodist Church
1900 Gulf Shores Parkway
Gulf Shores, AL 36542

Tribute Wall

CH

“ I just saw that Pastor Butler passed away unexpectedly. My husband Don and I are snowbirds and have attended United Methodist Church in Gulf Shores for several years. We want to extend to your congregation and his family our deepest sympathy. Pastor Butler is one of the reasons we loved it at your church. He always preached such a wonderful message of our Savior. He had such interesting stories too. I especially loved the Ash Wed. Service that he did. I am sure he leaves behind so many good memories and blessings to your congregation along with the snowbirds like us. May God lead you in replacing Glen Butler and give you all strength and God's peace that passes all understanding. Sincerely Don and Carol Haslach. Roseville, Mn.

Carol Haslach - January 10, 2019 at 04:37 PM

JA

“ We were out of town and heard the sad news about Glenn. Our holidays were dampened by the news of our Pastors passing. Martha and I have been members of Gulf Shores Methodist for 21 years and have thoroughly enjoyed Glenn and His Services. Our thought and prayers are with the family and all of our Church Family as we mourn the loss of our friend and Pastor. Jim & Martha Alexander

Jim Alexander - January 07, 2019 at 01:56 PM

CR

“ We are Gulf Shores snowbirds. We have attended GSUMC for the past 10 years and loved Dr. Butler as a pastor. He will be greatly missed. We are so sorry for his family's loss and wanted you to know how difficult it was to learn of his passing this morning during services. Please know our thoughts and prayers are with you during this very difficult time.

*Charles and Shirley Roberts
Illinois*

c roberts - January 06, 2019 at 03:21 PM

PH

“ Words cannot express how deeply sorry we were to hear about Rev. Butler. He was just an awesome person. Being snowbirds, we only attended his service for 3 months a year, but it was one of our favorite things to do down here. We always looked forward to his wit and humor. He will be greatly missed. May God wrap his arms around you and comfort you in your time of loss



Phil & Joyce Hook - January 04, 2019 at 08:34 PM

TR

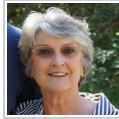
“ We attended two memorial services at GSUMC and loved the sermons Pastor Butler delivered. His words were personal to each family. He was genuine, kind and compassionate. We send our heartfelt prayers to his wife Shery and his entire family. Bill, Dominique & Emilie Rattner

The Rattners - January 03, 2019 at 06:51 PM

CH

“ *Pastor Glenn was truly a man of God and Terry and I are very grateful for him and what he meant to both of us. We have been member of Gsumc for 21yrs and both of us feel that Glenn was one of the very best we have ever had. He prayed with and for Terry many times and was always there at surgery's. I remember once when he stoped by our condo to check on him and remember how very tired he was because he had spent the day with someone in Pensacola yet he made time to see Terry on the way home. I myself confided and sought guidance from him and he was very understanding and helpful also no with Pastor Jodi. How blessed we were to have known him and his love for Christ!!!
I pray you Enough Shery,
Cathy and Terry Hanners*

Cathy Hanners - January 03, 2019 at 08:31 AM



*My husband and I are snowbirds and have attended GSUMC for the past five years during our trips to Orange Beach. We loved the pastor, staff and congregants at Gulf Shores. Pastor Butler always preached a strong message of our Lord and Savior. We were so shocked to learn of his passing. Our loss is Heaven's gain, but we will miss his strong guiding presence. May God comfort his family and his congregants!
Blessings, David and Susan Wingate*

Susan Street Wingate - January 14, 2019 at 11:44 AM

SB

“ *My husband and I attended GSUMC for the five years we owned a condo in Orange Beach! We loved attending the church because of Rev. Butler. He was a great speaker and a joy to listen to!! Emily & Kelly Stinson*

Stinson Emily Buttrey - January 02, 2019 at 10:11 PM

EC

“ Glenn was a great pastor and caring friend. We knew him through Walk to Emmaus but he became our pastor in Prattville. My step son, Michael Crouse, said he would like to go on a mission trip like I had. Glenn was leading a trip, Mike went and changed his life. Glenn was a great mentor for him. My husband, Glenn, and I worked on evangelism with him. When they moved from Prattville and we gave them a farewell dinner at our home. He came back to Prattville to a conference and spent the night with us. We loved he, Sherry and their family. What a loss. Praying for the family and church

elizabeth crouse - January 01, 2019 at 06:56 PM

SH

Thank you, Elizabeth. We so fondly remembered our days in Prattville and that parting meal with you and friends. You blessed Glenn in life, and now in death and resurrection. His family blesses you in Jesus Name for both. ❤️ Shery and family.

Shery - January 02, 2019 at 03:46 AM

BF

“ Berver Family lit a candle in memory of Pastor Glenn A Butler



Berver family - December 31, 2018 at 10:13 PM

BF

“ *Berver Family lit a candle in memory of Pastor Glenn A Butler*



Berver family - December 31, 2018 at 10:05 PM

DB

“ *Debbie Berver lit a candle in memory of Pastor Glenn A Butler*



Debbie Berver - December 31, 2018 at 09:06 PM

JB

“ *I am so very sorry to hear of the passing of Pastor Butler. Although I never met him, I have heard my family, Sand and Floyd Williams speak lovingly of him many times. I look forward to greeting my Christian brother in Heaven some day. Prayers for his dear family. Janice Barfield*



Janice Barfield - December 31, 2018 at 08:38 PM

SH

Janice, Your parents were always positive supporters of Glenn, the church, and the work of Christ. Glenn enjoyed Floyd's leadership and friendship. Glenn enjoyed trying to catch the Sun Chief's in Bay Minette win games, and Floyd frequently accompanied him. Your family made Glenn's life better, and my children and I are deeply grateful.

Shery - January 02, 2019 at 03:53 AM

MA

“ I was away for the Christmas holidays, and did not know of Reverend Butler's passing until Sunday December 30 when I attended church at GSMC. I was stunned and deeply saddened to hear of his passing, as he was an inspiration to all of us who knew him, and heard his sermons.

The last sermon that I heard, was particularly meaningful to me, this was the sermon given by Reverend Butler on December 16th. This sermon dealt with the birth of Jesus, and the humble shepherds, and many related meaningful messages, from around the globe,.

there was one illustration that dealt with Reverend Butler and his reference to his frequent visits to the Waffle House in Robertsdale, it was just a brief mention.

This brief mention, illustrates so much of who Reverend Butler was, a kind, humble, and deeply caring individual, who ministered not only through the church but in his daily life to those he knew, as well as strangers. He only briefly mentioned the visits, tying the waffle house folks to all of us, we are all like family, like the shepherds. But I know there must have been a great deal of kindness and spirituality in those visits, but Reverend Butler would never brag on himself, in fact the reverse was always the case.

This is an example of one of the many meaningful stories about life around the world, that Reverend Butler used to illustrate his sermon messages, but this was deeply personal, but telling, re: his involvement in the community at large. Years ago I used to say that my heroes and heroines were those who worked at Waffle House, and those who ate there. So I found this reference especially meaningful, along with his many illustrations that made his sermons so lasting in my memory. We all mourn his passing, he will be deeply missed.

Mary King

mary - December 31, 2018 at 08:35 PM

SH

Mary, Glenn joined Jesus on the second day of Christmas; according to the 12 Days of Christmas song, the gift is two calling birds - the Old and New Testament. What better gift for those of us waiting for our resurrection, too. The two books work together to support and complete us in life, much like your two Waffle House groups of the best kind of people. Thank you for sharing. ❤️ Shery

Shery - January 02, 2019 at 04:02 AM

KB

“*Pastor Glenn was our Beach pastor since we are snowbirds from Indiana. Such a gentle man! He is the picture of the gentleness and wisdom in Proverbs 15. 1...A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger. 2 The tongue of the wise commends knowledge, but the mouths of fools pour out folly. 3 The eyes of the LORD are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good. 4 A gentle tongue is a tree of life, but perverseness in it breaks the spirit.*

He opened the book of Revelation to Karen and I like no one has. Pastor Glenn was always a highlight of our winter stays in Gulf Shores.

Ken and Karen Baker

Ken Baker - December 31, 2018 at 05:32 PM

SH

Ken and Karen,

Glenn loved His “Winter Visitors” as he frequently called you. He found his Snowbird friends added a life and love when participating in the ministries of the church, and in the community. Thank you for sharing your experiences with Glenn and his teaching. Your scripture was certainly true of Glenn; he was always self-controlled and kind. Bless you, both! ❤️ Shery

Shery - January 02, 2019 at 04:13 AM

SH

*Ken and Karen,
Glenn loved his "Winter Visitors" as he frequently called you. He enjoyed the energy and love the Snowbids brought when participating in the ministries of the church, and in the community. Thank you for sharing how Glenn's teaching blessed you. Your scripture described him well; he was always self-controlled and kind. Bless you both! ❤️
Shery*

Shery - January 02, 2019 at 04:23 AM

SC

“ Pastor Glenn married us in 2013. He was always available to counsel and console in an amazing informative and kind manner. He will be missed tremendously by us and many others. I thank God for the time we had with him as our Pastor and friend. Sandee & Brian Collins.

Sandee Humphries Collins - December 31, 2018 at 01:07 PM

SH

*Sandee,
It sounds like you will be celebrating your sixth anniversary this year; congratulations! Glenn liked knowing the marriages he performed produced happy homes where both parties commit not only to each other, but also to God honoring the marriage covenant. Thank you for sharing your admiration for and friendship with Glenn. May God's love and light continue to bless your marriage! ❤️ Shery*

Shery - January 02, 2019 at 04:43 AM



“ Justin Cazes Branham lit a candle in memory of Pastor Glenn A Butler



Justin Cazes Branham - December 31, 2018 at 11:29 AM

RT

“ Roger And Sandy Tyer lit a candle in memory of Pastor Glenn A Butler



Roger and Sandy Tyer - December 31, 2018 at 10:47 AM

GC

“ We will continue to raise our voices in your memory and give thanks for your sustaining support of the music ministry!



GSUMC Chancel Choir - December 31, 2018 at 10:34 AM

SH

Wonderful choir! Music transcends all, even the sadness that accompanies grieving! Thank you for your dedication to faithfully bring God's message in song. Glenn was immeasurably grateful for you and your music ministry. Blessings! ❤️ Shery

Shery - January 02, 2019 at 04:49 AM

LP

“ GSUMC Choir will raise our voices in your memory giving thanks to you for your sustaining support for the music ministry!



Lou Plotz - December 31, 2018 at 10:25 AM

SH

Lou, people like you and Evelyn who love people and love music and use your talents for Jesus, make the church better. Glenn was grateful for the quality of your choir, and how it blessed the church. Thank you, ❤️ Shery

Shery - January 02, 2019 at 04:55 AM

SS

“ Our family always loved attending "beach church" as my children called it. The week never really started for us until we spend Sunday morning at Gulf Shores UMC. Rev. Butler was always so kind and welcoming. Even though we were visitors, we always felt like we were home. My heart goes out to his family and to those in his congregation.

Stephani Satterfield - December 31, 2018 at 09:42 AM

SH

Stephani, people who love the church and whose week started better with worship, were Pastor Glenn's favorite type of people! Glenn loved the church, and therefore he loved you and your children. Thank you for sharing your family's story with his family. We take joy in your story because we know he would have. ❤️ Shery

Shery - January 02, 2019 at 07:00 AM

WT

“ Wayne And Eloise Thomley lit a candle in memory of Pastor Glenn A Butler



Wayne and Eloise Thomley - December 30, 2018 at 11:33 PM

CN

“ *Clay Nicholas lit a candle in memory of Pastor Glenn A Butler*



Clay Nicholas - December 30, 2018 at 10:52 PM

PC

“ *Peggy Cunningham lit a candle in memory of Pastor Glenn A Butler*



Peggy Cunningham - December 30, 2018 at 07:57 PM

DC

“ *Don &Peggy Cunningham lit a candle in memory of Pastor Glenn A Butler*



Don &Peggy Cunningham - December 30, 2018 at 07:55 PM

CB

“ *Pastor Glenn 's HS locker was next to mine at Carroll. Even as a young man he was caring, respectful, quiet, and full of steady strong faith. May his family feel Jesus's comfort. Rich and Claudia*

claudia berry - December 30, 2018 at 12:28 AM

SH

*Claudia and Rich,
Thank you for this story about Pastor Glenn's high school character!
My own children were happy to hear their Dad was always kind. We
pray your message will comfort my brother-in-law, as he is happily
reminded of high school and the friends they both may have shared.
Bless you! ❤️ Shery*

Shery - January 02, 2019 at 07:08 AM

WS

“ Glenn welcomed John and I with open arms
at St. Luke UMC in Enterprise. He was one of
the kindest people we have ever had the
pleasure of knowing and he will be missed.
Shery, Ethan, and Emma, you are in our
thoughts and prayers.



Wendy Sexton - December 29, 2018 at 04:51 PM

SH

*Wendy,
For Glenn, It was a joyful day when you and John joined St. Luke! (We
think of John after nearly every natural disaster.) Your remembrance of
Glenn, though it has been nearly 10 years, warms our hearts. Bless
you! ❤️ Shery*

Shery - January 02, 2019 at 07:20 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the
family of Pastor Glenn A Butler.



December 29, 2018 at 02:17 PM

MJ

“Glen was one of the kindest persons I have ever met. I never once saw him raise his voice or speak an unkind word. He and Shery are true examples of living a life of service to others and Christ. He was so humble. Stephanie and I were reflecting and laughing about how he always said “that’s interesting “. Did not matter how bad the idea was or how out there the suggestion was, he never shot it down or criticized it. Just a simple and sincere “that’s interesting “. We enjoyed he and Shery and their family while in Luverne. Our deepest sympathies. He will be missed but always remembered.
Mike and Stephanie Jones

mike jones - December 29, 2018 at 11:20 AM

JW

Well said Mike! I was thinking the same thing about how he would say “Thats interesting”! Besides my father he was my favorite Minister! I loved Sherry as well. Such a tragic loss!

Jenifer Williams - December 29, 2018 at 12:39 PM

RJ

To the Butler family we are snowbirds from Michigan we coming here for years we so enjoyed his service and his messages. We’re not on Facebook or emails much and we always said we hope Glenn still at our church in Gulf Shores and sure enough he always was every year. We will miss him as I know you will what a gift from God he was for all of us and to you hugs and blessings

Robert &Joan Jansma - December 29, 2018 at 09:46 PM

SH

Mike and Stephanie,
Your kind words popped up here while Glenn’s brother was visiting; not only was your memory of Glenn precious to Ethan, Emma and me, it was also a blessing to Ralph. We enjoyed our time in Luvern for many, many reasons; you, sweet Stephanie, and your dear family top that list. (Congrats on becoming Grandparents! Glenn and I loved seeing Ali’s beautiful twin girls) Blessings ❤️ Shery

Shery - January 02, 2019 at 07:32 AM

SH

Jenifer, we all love you and your precious daughters. I always liked being around you because being a "PK" you understood things others could not. Thank you for your love and prayers. ❤️ Shery

Shery - January 02, 2019 at 08:05 AM

SH

*Robert and Joann,
Glenn's family fully agrees with you, Glenn was a gift from God! We are so grateful for the love and support the Snowbirds directed toward Glenn. Glenn laid down his life for his family and his church. Knowing he was truly appreciated is a comfort for us. Bless you. ❤️ Shery*

Shery - January 02, 2019 at 08:10 AM



“ Starbucks Coffee Condolences was purchased for the family of Pastor Glenn A Butler.



December 29, 2018 at 10:42 AM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Pastor Glenn A Butler.



December 28, 2018 at 06:28 PM

DF

“ *Dona Ford lit a candle in memory of Pastor Glenn A Butler*



Dona Ford - December 28, 2018 at 05:54 PM

JG

“ *He was a dear friend, fellow basketball player and neighbor. He meant so much to me and will be missed. I know he is smiling as he visits with our lord. I feel for his family and his church members.*
Jimmy Golden

Jimmy Golden - December 28, 2018 at 05:27 PM

SH

Jimmy,
Thank you for your warm words of condolence. Ralph was with us as it showed up here. We were all very blessed by the depth of respect for Glenn in your words. The message of love and comfort from his college roommate seemed a Balm in Gilead for Ralph. Thank you, and bless you. ❤️The Glenn Butler Family

Shery - January 02, 2019 at 08:01 AM

JF

“ *John and Maureen McAveaney, The McDonald Family purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Pastor Glenn A Butler.*



John and Maureen McAveaney, The McDonald Family -
December 28, 2018 at 04:27 PM

LK

“ We would like to send our deepest condolences to the family of Glenn Butler and the members of GSUMC. We are so saddened by the loss of this incredibly loving and spiritual leader. In our opinion, Glenn was the most eloquent conveyor and teacher when sharing God’s message. He always related the old history of the Bible to modern times and had the ability to make us want to strive to be better Christians and followers of Jesus. He will be sorely missed, but we know he is in a better place with our Heavenly Father. Thank you for your service to the church community and make this journey blessed with God’s Grace.

Lennie and Bruce Kramer

Lennie Kramer - December 28, 2018 at 03:41 PM

JC

“ Jerry Connor lit a candle in memory of Pastor Glenn A Butler



Jerry Connor - December 28, 2018 at 01:27 PM

SS

“ Glenn was a great friend and an even better man. I always enjoyed our visits together. He will be greatly missed. Praying for you,
Seth Snellgrove

Seth Snellgrove - December 28, 2018 at 11:52 AM

CM

“ *Carole Matthews lit a candle in memory of Pastor Glenn A Butler*



Carole Matthews - December 28, 2018 at 11:04 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Pastor Glenn A Butler.*



December 28, 2018 at 09:53 AM

RS

“ *Was saddened by the news of Glenn's passing. He was so kind to my husband and to me during Chucks illness. Hie memorial for Chuck was so personal and comforting to me and my family. Thinking of Shari and the entire family at this difficult time. Praying for peace and comfort.*

Ruth Schenkemberger - December 27, 2018 at 07:30 PM

LH

Glenn was awesome as an individual and as a pastor. He will be missed. His family is in our prayers

Laszlo Halaszi - December 28, 2018 at 10:59 AM



“ *Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Pastor Glenn A Butler.*



December 27, 2018 at 06:14 PM



“ *Birmingham Ministry Team purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Pastor Glenn A Butler.*



Birmingham Ministry Team - December 27, 2018 at 04:20 PM