



Glenn Richard Bucher

June 26, 2019

Glenn Richard Bucher, 79, of Lititz, PA, passed away on Wednesday, June 26, 2019 at Landis Homes. Born in Mechanicsburg, PA, he was the son of K. Ezra Bucher and Anna Esther Markley.

Glenn graduated from Elizabethtown College, PA, and went on to Union Theological Seminary, NYC, to earn a Master's of Divinity and then to Boston University for his Ph.D. As a professor and administrator, Dr. Bucher worked with both students and faculty at The School of Religion at Howard University in Washington, DC; The College of Wooster, OH; as Dean of Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, GA; and as the President of The Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, CA. After 2000, he directed the Boyer Center at Messiah College, Grantham, PA, and was Assistant to President Long of Elizabethtown College, PA. Dr. Bucher finished his career as an adjunct professor at Villanova University.

When Glenn was not in the classroom, he enjoyed playing tennis, golf and going to the opera. He was on the board of Music At Gettna and Wheatland Chorale. His passion for music began as a young man. With three high school friends he formed a quartet called The Four Keys. In his later years, The Four Keys would reunite as an octet with their significant others.

Glenn is survived by his wife of 56 years, Mary K. Bucher, his two children,

Christina and Timothy, and his three grandchildren, Nathaniel, Elizabeth, Jackson; his brother, Larry L. Bucher, and several extended family members.

The family would like to express its deep gratitude for the visits of clergy and members of St. James Episcopal Church, Hospice & Community Care, Landis At Home, and Mary and Julia for their care and compassion.

A Requiem Mass will be held on Saturday, June 29, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. at St. James Episcopal Church, 119 North Duke Street, Lancaster, PA 17602 with the Rev. David W. Peck and Rev. Richard C. Bauer officiating. Friends are welcome to greet the family at 1:00 p.m. at the church. Parking is available at the Duke Street garage across the street from the church.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations in Glenn's honor to one of the following, Music At Gretna; Hospice & Community Care; Wheatland Chorale; Landis Homes Caring Fund; or the K. Ezra and Esther Bucher Music Fund at Elizabethtown Church of the Brethren.

Please visit Dr. Bucher's Memorial Page at www.TheGroffs.com

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN **29**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

St. James Episcopal Church
119 N. Duke Street
Lancaster, PA 17603

Memorial Service

JUN **29**. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

St. James Episcopal Church
119 N. Duke Street
Lancaster, PA 17603

Tribute Wall



“ *The Groffs Family Funeral and Cremation Services Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Glenn Richard Bucher*



The Groffs Family Funeral and Cremation Services Inc - June 28, 2019 at 01:50 PM

JS

Beautiful tribute to a wonderful Christian gentleman who did wear many different and interesting hats during his lifetime.

Judy and Bill Schrack

Judy Schrack - June 29, 2019 at 11:00 AM

LI

What a wonderful brother who was the first to introduce me to the notion of prophetic dreaming as an ethical commitment... Thank you Glenn...

Luther Ivory - June 11, 2025 at 11:08 PM



“ *Glenn Richard Bucher*

October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM

LB

“ I would like to share that Dr. Bucher was a wonderful teacher and a kind man. He was the first person to suggest to me that I study something that "wasn't work." That was a completely novel idea to me and changed the course of my life. I became a Religious Studies major! He was a gentle presence through a very anxious time I had writing my senior IS at the College of Wooster. He cared. Grateful for his life!

Lynn Brunner, The College of Wooster, Class of 1986

Lynn Brunner - July 10, 2021 at 10:32 PM

LJ

“ Nearly two years later, I have to write and say how much Professor Bucher taught me, encouraged and inspired me, not just as my Senior IS supervisor, but in life. I had the privilege to meet him again, as an 'adult', having given up formal theological studies for work in the world of NGOs. He told me then, and I never forgot, if you don't practice what you believe, then don't bother. I know Professor Bucher has Risen in Glory!

*Lakshmi Daniel Jacota
(College of Wooster 1980-84)*

Lakshmi Jacota - April 08, 2021 at 10:09 PM

DM

“ Mary - a year late, but sister Pam (Herr Haskin) and I just read of Glenn's "departure" from earthly bonds . So sorry to learn - even by happenstance. Blessings to you as you continue life here without your soulmate. When we celebrated our parents (Galen & Harriet) in 2011. it was a wonderful surprise and honor to have you two and Chet & Joy participate with us. Two days later, Glenn said a prayer over their graves in E-town, then visited with us at lunch. We had a gabfest and that is my final memory of him. A fine, fine family - the Buchers - many evenings at their home with us Herrs playing cardtable games well into the night.....another fond memory. Be well ---- as we evolve day by day. Debbie Herr McNeil

Deborah Herr McNeil - May 17, 2020 at 10:16 AM

DB

“ I want to share with the family how important Glenn was to my life and vocation. As a religion major at the College of Wooster (Class of '72) we lived through turbulent times and Glenn's constant guidance, vision, and mentorship helped me see more clearly where God and I were going. His recommendation of his alma mater Union Theological Seminary was another turning point and a great blessing. He was my advisor for my I.S., a sports partner and an alway supportive friend. I especially remember the Westminster House community which happened after I graduated but represented how college community life should be. I regret not staying in touch more and wish I could tell him all this now. Thanks be to God for his life!

David Berkey - August 05, 2019 at 05:29 PM

DC

“ I had the privilege of serving as an RA in Douglass Hall, a co-ed dorm at the College of Wooster in the late 70's. Glenn and Mary were the dorm directors and understood exactly how far the rules could be bent to allow for a fun but still safe and comfortable living environment. I learned so much about caring for others and being responsible from the two of them (and Christina and Tim). I learned from you things that have been crucial to my career and personal life. I also had a class or two from Glenn and though neither of us knew it at the time, they were instrumental in pointing me in the direction of the ministry. I remember in the fall of 1977 talking with Glenn about his experiences at the General Assembly that June and having my eyes opened for the first time about the rightful place of LGBTQ people in the church and in the heart of God. I have been an advocate ever since.

Mary, Christina and Timothy, you will be in my prayers in the weeks ahead. It was an honor and a privilege to have known Glenn. He was a good man and a good teacher and neither of those are small things.

David Comstock

David Comstock - July 01, 2019 at 05:24 PM



“ So sorry to hear of Glenn's passing. Mary and Glenn were my dorm Director's junior year at Wooster. Doug Pinkham and I remember his humorous notes when on occasion, he would "borrow" a beer from our mini-fridge. Glenn recommended me for a social change internship with Common Cause fall of 1977, leading me to a wonderful life of work in non-profits. Our thoughts go out to the family.

Jay Keller, Wooster, Class of 1979.

Jay Keller - July 01, 2019 at 05:02 PM

JN

“ We regret that we were unable to attend Glenn's service. Although we were not truly related, I always thought of the Beck relations as aunts, uncles and cousins. Thank you for the photo album; it was good to look back on some great pictures. With our condolences, Joan (Fyock) Norris and Philip Norris

Joan Norris - June 30, 2019 at 02:44 PM

MJ

“ So sorry for this news. Glen is now at the end of his long struggle and at peace. I was sorry to miss the service yesterday but will hope to connect when I am back in town. Please accept my sincere condolences for your loss. Mary Ann Johnson

mary Ann Johnson - June 30, 2019 at 06:56 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Glenn Richard Bucher.



June 29, 2019 at 09:18 AM



“ 55 files added to the album Life Tributes



The Groff's Family Funeral and Cremation Services Inc - June 28, 2019 at 12:14 PM

BR

“ *Bonita Gibble Reed lit a candle in memory of Glenn Richard Bucher*



Bonita Gibble Reed - June 28, 2019 at 09:56 AM

BR

“ *I'm not sure of the connection, but I remember my Mother, Helen Smith Gibble, speaking fondly of family memories to Glen - years ago. My sincere sympathy to you, Mary. I saw you taking wonderful care of Glen during the past few years.*
Bonita Gibble Reed

Bonita Gibble Reed - June 28, 2019 at 09:55 AM