



Rev. Glenn Walter Swain Jaquith

May 4, 1934 - April 22, 2014

The Rev. Glenn Walter Swain Jaquith, 79, of Corvallis died April 22 of complications of pneumonia.

Glenn grew up in Newberg, living for a time on the family homestead in a house that once had been a chicken coop. His education began in a one-room schoolhouse, and later included Lewis & Clark College, the University of Wisconsin, and bachelor's and master's degrees in music from the University of Oregon.

Music was the medium that spread Glenn's spirit through the world. He played baritone horn in the 9th Division Army Band, string bass for the Starliters dance band, and both baritone and trumpet in the Corvallis Community Band; taught guitar at Linn-Benton Community College; sang in the Town Choir; and helped found an annual high school arts camp as well as a choir camp for adults.

Glenn taught choral music for 33 years in the Eugene, Cottage Grove and Corvallis school districts. He was Director of Music and led multiple choirs for more than 30 years at First United Methodist Church in Corvallis. After retiring from public school teaching in 1992, Glenn attended seminary; he was eventually ordained in the United Methodist Church and continued to enrich the lives of others as minister of music.

His gentle leadership, mentoring spirit and unbridled enthusiasm for music have played a significant role in influencing the lives of countless persons, both in the church and beyond.

Glenn's other passions included collecting vintage Volvos, a stint at gold-mining, and traveling the country researching family genealogy in ancient cemeteries and courthouse basements. He also traveled abroad, with a highlight being a trip to Assisi, Italy, the home of St. Francis, whose life and teachings had a significant impact on Glenn. His favorite trips were always the ones that included family connections and celebrations.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Judy (Thorpe) Jaquith; children, the Rev. Laura Jaquith Bartlett (the Rev. Todd Bartlett), Ted Jaquith (Carole Frances) and Steve Jaquith (Laura Hoexter); and grandchildren Lily and Corinne Jaquith, and Hannah and Megan Bartlett.

A memorial service will take place at 3 p.m. Saturday, April 26, at First United Methodist Church in Corvallis, with a reception following. Memorials can be made to the music ministry program of First UMC, Corvallis, or the Southern Poverty Law Center.

Tribute Wall

JA

“ Oh dear, I just learned of "mr. Jaquiths" passing and wish I could be with you to celebrate him! He was my music teacher and choir director at Western View in the early 70s. Our girls triple trio as 9th graders was called the "purple pipers". He was such a wonderful part of my youth! I have so many memories, but my favorite (poignant) was in the 9 th grade at western view when the musical Jesus Christ Superstar had just debuted on Broadway. Our choir program that year was from the musical....some folks (parents) objected to the content....but Mr J. Led us on to one of the best programs I ever remember. To this day I will NEVER forget the night on the western view stage when we performed that oh so radical music. I love him.

janet - April 28, 2014 at 10:16 PM

DD

“ I first knew Glenn while playing in the 9th Division Band at Ft. Carson, where I found that in addition to a love of music, we both pined for our gals back in Madison. Glenn was the most energetic and hard-working guy I'd ever met, as he ran a deli and ironing business out of his room in off hours, to help support his new marriage. I'm sure it took just that kind of energy and effort to promote the good music experiences for so many as he has done over the years. He will be missed by family, friends, and community alike!

Dale Dzubay

Dale Dzubay - April 25, 2014 at 11:01 PM

VR

“ I always thought Glenn looked like "Snoopy" doing the happy dance when he lead the choir. He was so energetic and obviously loved what he was doing. Another fond memory is the "backwards party" at his house. We wore our clothes backwards, came in through the garage, and had dessert first.

I am so sorry that he is gone and will be missed.

Vivian Rutledge

Vivian Rutledge - April 25, 2014 at 01:32 PM

BC

“ Oops, should be his parting leaves a HUGE hole. Senior moment!

Betty Cosgrove

Betty Cosgrove - April 25, 2014 at 12:41 PM

BC

“ I had the privilege of attending the Wallowa Lake choir camp when Glenn was directing and what a joy it was. Glenn had such a gift of bringing beautiful music out of singers and "wannabes" in his quite, gentle manner. His parting leaves a HUGE whole in the music community but can't you hear the rejoicing now with his addition to the "Heavenly Choir"? He will be sorely missed.

Betty Cosgrove
Joseph, OR

Betty Cosgrove - April 25, 2014 at 12:39 PM