

Glenn Carl Johnson, 79, of

St. Charles, IL, passed away from complications of pancreatic cancer on June 10, 2024.

Glenn was born on Feb. 26, 1945, in Evanston, IL, the son of Robert Carlton Johnson and Grace Elaine (nee Jones). He grew up in Park Ridge, Illinois, where he enjoyed long bike rides around the Chicago area and playing with model trains, which sparked his lifelong love of train travel.



Glenn graduated from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign in 1967 with a degree in physics, and earned a master's degree in nuclear engineering from UIUC the following year. His name is memorialized on the university's Bronze Tablet, where he was proud to be joined by his daughter Teresa years later. As an undergraduate, he was a proud member of the Phi Kappa Chapter of Alpha Chi Rho.

Glenn married Louise Delia (nee Pfeffer) on June 24, 1967, in Champaign, IL, following their college romance, which was sparked over a bag of potato chips that Louise was passing around at a sorority-fraternity picnic their freshman year. Over their long married life, they enjoyed traveling — including Glenn's trip of a lifetime to Great Britain in 2022 — watching live music, British tv, and visiting with family.

After his service in the Navy in 1969 at the Office of Naval Research in Washington, D.C., Glenn spent the remainder of his career at Fermilab. There, he was a software engineer for the control systems of the lab's particle accelerator. He formally retired in 2001, but continued as a consultant for nearly two decades.

Glenn had a lifelong love of classical music. He played clarinet in concert bands from childhood into the 1980s, and then spent years closely following drum and bugle corps, traveling around the Midwest every summer with his family to attend competitions. Listening to music brought him great comfort during the year and a half he spent with cancer.

Glenn is preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his wife and his three children, Teresa Johnson, Steven Johnson, and Susan Keown; his two brothers, Larry Johnson and Craig Johnson; his four grandchildren, Neela, Uma, Ariella, and Isaac; his sisters-in-law; sons- and daughter-in-law; and cousins, nieces, and nephews.