GLENN W. BURGER
1920 - 2015 | Obituary | Condolences

Burger, Glenn W.

Glenn W. Burger (Cdr., US Navy, Ret.), formerly of Albuquerque, passed away July 5 in Loveland, CO at age 94. He was born in 1920 in Cedar City, UT and grew up in Ridgway, CO.

Glenn was an officer in the U.S. Navy (1941-1961), beginning as a flight instructor and test pilot and ending as a weapons expert working with the Atomic Energy Commission and the Armed Forces Special Weapons Project joint command. He received master's and professional degrees in engineering from CalTech (1947) and served as the Sea-Air Rescue Commander on Midway Island in the months before the atoll's decommissioning (1949-50). He met his wife, Jayne Jones (1924-2009), in Boulder, CO, while attending the University of Colorado. They had four children; Sandra, David, Leslie and Bill. During Glenn's Navy career, the family lived in 11 states (including pre-statehood Hawaii).

At Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, he was a Field Services Engineer, inspecting nuclear plants and storage facilities around the world, including Japan, Korea, Germany, and Italy. Later he was the main engineer in charge of the B57 nuclear bomb, which involved repairing, testing, modernizing and observing the weapons. During this period of the Cold War (the 1970s), Glenn was privy to Strategic Air Command "war room" strategies. After his 1981 retirement, he became an avid tomato grower and was a volunteer tax preparer.

He is survived by his four children, four grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

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