

# Tribute to Carl Peters

(1916 - 2012)

Carl was one of a few people that has known me all of my life. He dated my sister, Ruth, and married her the day after my second birthday. He was my babysitter, brother-in-law, friend, critic, counselor and one of the most admired role models in my life. He was fun and happy and steady and predictable and principled and was the most devout person I have ever known.

In my early years, Carl played ball with me, as my father didn't know how to play catch or throw a football. In fact, my sister Ruth was a better athlete than my father. Carl loved to tell the story (to embarrass me) about me spitting on him through a upstairs ceiling register while he was dating my sister (Of course, this is probably fiction as I never did things like that).

When my nephews were born, I often stayed at their home on over-nights and played with Paul and John. They were more like brothers, but often called me Uncle Glenn...even when they were young...probably, I suppose because they were expected to "do the right thing." Carl and Ruth raised a great family...who showed their love of their Mother and him to the end of each of their lives.

Carl was strict with regard to values...one time chastising me for using a slang word when I missed a basketball shot by saying that if I used that word again he would not play with me any longer. I got the message.

After my sister died, Carl was grief stricken, and even told me that he might have made a mistake by having heart surgery to lengthen his life. Thankfully, he met and married Rachel, an angel, who enabled him to live the remaining years of his life more joyfully.

We are only on this earth for a few years and I believe Carl's life will have a lasting impact on the many who knew him. Carl modeled the life of faith he embraced and those of us who knew him were uplifted by his strength and commitment. His strength lives on in his family...a tribute to the direction and leadership he demonstrated as a father and Christian.

Many will miss Carl, but elements of him will live on forever in those who knew him. I am grateful Carl has been in my entire life.

Glenn Saltzman, February 20, 2012