John R. Glenn III
1943 - 2009

Former FCC Engineer John Glenn passed away on September 1st, at the age of 66.

A lifelong radio man, John was born in Wisconsin in 1943, but was an Arizona resident for much of his life. John went to New Mexico State University, where he earned a degree in Electrical Engineering. He then enlisted in the Army, after which he became a field engineer for the FCC, based at the monitoring station in Douglas, AZ, his mother's hometown.

Virtually his entire career was spent in Douglas – 35 years – until the FCC closed the station in 1996. He spent the last two years before retirement in Washington, DC, where he met his wife, Susan, married, and moved back to Arizona to enjoy his passion for amateur radio.

John Glenn

Radio engineers and amateur operators remember John as ready to help others, whether during emergencies or helping radio stations to deal with FCC Rules and Regulations.

Bill Croghan recalls: *"John was a good friend who always stopped by my stations in Tucson when he had the time, and traded some interesting stories for a cup of coffee. He usually asked to see some log or something to make it an official visit! We had the most inspected station in the state.*

"I will never forget the day my S10 broke down while we were doing monitor points and we had to wait for a sales person to pick us up and take us back to the station. We then jumped in his FCC truck and we went to the top of the Tucson Mountain site, to inspect my FM, only to get there and remember that the keys were in the broken down truck. I learned he had a great sense of humor.

"A couple times he helped find ELT transmitters when I was called out by Civil Air patrol, and by the time I could drive to Douglas, AZ, he'd have found it, but let me take the credit for the find."

In addition to his wife, Susan, he leaves behind a son, John R. Glenn IV, and a daughter, Sandra Lobring of Michigan.

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