

Glenn John I'Ons
29 November 1963 - 14 January 2010.



Glenn was born on 29 November 1963 in Mbabane, Swaziland. He moved to South Africa in 1969 before coming to Australia in 1979, attending St Edmunds College in Canberra between 1978 and 1981. Glenn returned to South Africa to undertake compulsory military National Service for 2 years from 1982 to 1983.

In 1984 Glenn commenced a Bachelor of Engineering at the University of Wollongong and completed his degree in 1987. During this time he undertook work experience with CEA Technologies in 1985.

Glenn commenced work at CEA Technologies on 4 January 1988, as employee No.18.

Back then, while Glenn had become an Australian Citizen on 5 December 1986, his South African accent was still clearly discernible. He had a range of intriguing stories about doing his compulsory military National Service with the South African army, maintaining radios for their Special Forces staff.

Over time Glenn grew, in every respect, - as a friend, as a sage adviser, as a trusted confidante, as a mentor, as a patient teacher, as a careful listener, as a highly knowledgeable person in all aspects of radio frequency electronics.

Glenn was also an extraordinary colleague, combining intelligence, integrity, humility, personal warmth and humour. He was a dedicated engineer and a thoroughly decent person.

Glenn made vital contributions to a wide range of CEA projects including: Melbourne VTMS, ESSO CARS, SCS1, SCS2, all three versions of ASU, ANZAC SCS, TEWSS DF, Warrlock DF, CEAFAR, CEAMOUNT and every antenna ever made at CEA including Oberon Antenna, V421 Multifunction Antenna, V422 VHF/UHF Antenna, S-band phased array antenna design, Patrol Boat, EADS antenna, Rooftop Positioner and the F111 Radar Antenna Testing and Calibration.

Glenn was responsible for ensuring that the CEA antenna ranging facilities addressed the wide range of development, production and support needs. He was integral in the creation of the indoor Antenna Test Facility and the outdoor Antenna Ranging facilities including rooftop, Bungendore and the truck based capabilities.

Overall Glenn made a fundamental contribution to the growth and success of CEA. He was very thorough in his work and had an outstanding record for producing elegant designs that worked, kept working, and were completed on time.

As part of his work Glenn visited France for FAT of the rooftop positioner and Germany for EADS antenna testing.

Glenn's interests included cycling, bushwalking and his church. He was keen to raise awareness of depression and if you would like to make a donation to this cause, you can do so at www.beyondblue.org.au.

Glenn will be missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him. Our thoughts are with his family, his wife Roslyn, and children Lydia and Calvin.