

# GLENN SCHOBER

Glenn Schober attended Blake High School in Hopkins, Minnesota and Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota. He received his B.S. (1960) and PhD (1965) degrees from the University of Minnesota. Prior to joining the IU faculty in 1966, Glenn was an assistant professor of mathematics at the University of California at San Diego.

Glenn was one of the world's foremost authorities in the geometric theory of functions of a complex variable. He was the author or co-author of nearly 80 research articles published in mathematical journals, and in 1975 he wrote a well-known book, *Univalent Functions--Selected Topics*. His work included basic contributions to an emerging theory of harmonic mappings in the plane, and to the study of the popular "Mandelbrot" set in fractal geometry. A gregarious mathematician, he enjoyed working in collaboration with others and he inspired them to do their best work.

In our department, Glenn was immensely popular among faculty and students alike. He was a superb lecturer and a clear favorite of students, both in upper-level graduate courses as well as in introductory-level courses. It was well-known that the success rate of graduate students in the Complex Analysis Qualifying Examination was exceptionally high after he taught the relevant course. His lectures were models of clarity and humor. He never used notes and lectured entirely from memory, a non-trivial task in advanced mathematics. He was always happy to discuss mathematics and was never too busy to help others. A good example (from graduate-student



lore) relates that one day a student visited his office for help with a problem set. At that moment he was busy; he requested that the student return later. Instead, when he became free, he walked across the street to another building to meet with the student. This behavior was typical of his demeanor and endeared him to students, one and all.

Glenn was a fan of computing and loved to write programs for others--ranging from abstract and arcane mathematics to a queuing theory project from industry, and he collaborated with a great number of mathematicians.

Born: Minneapolis, Minnesota July 1, 1938  
Died: Bloomington, Indiana January 29, 1991  
Years at IU: 1966-1991

See also the Glenn Schober Memorial Travel Award