



## Houde Family Biography

Born in Michigan to Roland and Mary Houde, Glenn R Houde made an early commitment to education and service. Glenn enlisted in the Navy at the age of 18. Following his term of service, he attended Flint Junior College and earned his degree from Michigan State College in 1950. He pursued his graduate degree at Michigan State University and he earned his doctorate in education from Stanford University in 1971.

Glenn started his teaching career in 1950 in Portland, Oregon. His career progressed and he accepted high school vice-principal and principal positions in Portland and Fremont, California. He later served as Assistant Superintendent for the Fremont Unified School District. In 1969, Glenn was hired as Superintendent of the Elk Grove Unified School District (EGUSD). Glenn and his wife Ramona moved to Elk Grove with their four children - Denise, Blair, Kevin and Cynthia - and settled in the Valley Hi Country Club Estates. All four of their children attended Elk Grove schools and graduated from Elk Grove High School.

Glenn was the second person to serve as EGUSD Superintendent following the District's unification in 1959. During his fifteen years of service to EGUSD, the student population increased by 64 percent - from 8,798 to 14,396. Several District innovations were introduced during Glenn's tenure including modular scheduling, humanities classes, schools within a school, differentiated staffing, core classes in junior high, and mini-courses. Citizens' Advisory Committees, specialized reading and bilingual programs, and zero tolerance behavior policies were also introduced. Valley High School and four elementary schools (Herman Leimbach, Florence Markofer, Prarie, Ellen Feickert, and Rio Cazadero) were constructed during Glenn's time with EGUSD.

In 1982, Glenn was recognized as Elk Grove's Citizen of the Year. Following his retirement from EGUSD in 1983, Glenn and Ramona opened the Village Choice Restaurant in Elk Park Village Shopping Center. Unfortunately, Houde's ill health forced its closure sometime later. On December 12, 1992, Glenn passed away at the age of 65.

*The information within this document was created at the time of park dedication and may not be current.*