Henry

Henry is an invisible, but gorgeous butterfly, who taught a very frightened and sick little girl, age eight, to believe in miracles when she was diagnosed with polio.

The polio epidemic of the 1930's struck the Sharp household, and Joy had to be placed in an isolation hospital. There were twenty other sick children there, four of whom did not survive. She cried when she was taken from her Daddy's loving arms and learned she couldn't take her beloved stuffed dog, WooWoo, with her. Her mother and father placed an imaginary beautiful butterfly on her shoulder that only she could see, and he would keep her safe. She named him Henry; he has kept her safe and happy her entire life. That little girl is Joy Glenner, the co-founder in 1982 of The Glenner Alzheimer's Family Centers, a dream realized along with her beloved husband, the late Dr. George G. Glenner.

Dr. Glenner had been a leading researcher at the National Institutes of Health who was recruited to UCSD to continue his research on Alzheimer's. The Glenner Alzheimer's Family Centers were established in October 1982 with first medical and social model non-profit offering affordable daycare for those with dementia. In addition, counseling was provided for the family caregiver, truly the second victim of this long-term care disease that is a national crisis impacting one out of three families worldwide.

An exciting new model of daycare for the special needs of this population was designed by Scott Tarde, LNHA, Executive Director, Glenner Alzheimer's Family Centers and the innovative Town Square model. Today, Town Square is being replicated across the United States. The George Glenner Alzheimer's Town Square will open the latest Glenner Town Square this summer in Vista to serve the North County.

Information available at: (619) 543-4700

Life is Beautiful!

Joy Glenner