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## In Memoriam: Glen Brolander

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# In Memoriam: Glen Earl Brolander

The Swenson Center is mourning the loss of one of the most important persons in its history, Mr. Glen Earl Brolander, who passed away on March 15, 2014, in Stillwater, Minnesota, at the age of 84.

It was Glen's vision for a center for Swedish immigration research that brought about the creation of the Swenson Center at Augustana. He enlisted the financial support of Birger and Lyal Swenson and in September of 1981 the Center opened its doors on the third floor of what is now Denkmann Hall on the Augustana campus. Glen was the first chairman of the Center's advisory committee, stepping down in 2004. During these years, he worked tirelessly to advance the Center in so many ways, and it is no exaggeration to say that Glen has significantly shaped the Center.

Glen's personal passion for Swedish activities led to many dedicated roles of leadership. He also served as chairman of the board of the Swedish Council of America in Minneapolis, was president of the Swedish American Historical Society in Chicago and the Augustana Chapter of the American Scandinavian Foundation, and led the Western Illinois com-

mittees for the visits of the king and queen of Sweden in 1976 and 1988.

He had a long and distinguished career as an administrator at Augustana College, retiring in 1992 as vice president for financial affairs, after serving the college for 39 years.

Brolander was awarded the Order of the Polar Star (*Nordstjärneorden*) in 1979, he was named Swedish-American of the Year in 1998 by the Vasa Order of America, he received the Great Achievement Award from Swedish Council of America in 2012, and in 2013 Glen was awarded the Carl Sandburg Medal by the Swedish-American Historical Society.

Glen is survived by his wife of 54 years, Elaine Nestander Brolander, son Randall (Donna), daughter Sheryl (David Johnson), five grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

*For The Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center*  
*Dag Blanck*  
*Jill Seaholm*



## The digital collection of the Swedish-American Historical Society (SAHS)

In the April Newsletter of the SAHS there was information about the society's digitization of some old books on the pioneering Swedes.

It is a little complicated to find the books, but go to the society's website (*link on p. 30*), then click on *Research*, next on

*SAHS archives*, and then on *Digital collections*, and finally down on this page to *Swedish-American Historical Book Collection*. On the left side there is a button *Browse*, click now on that and you will see the books in question.

The collection so far consists of Gustaf

*Unonius' Memoirs*, Rosalie Roos' *Travels in America 1851-1855*, *Guide to Swedish-American Archival and Manuscript Sources in the United States* (1983), and a couple of other valuable, but hard to find, books.