

May 31, 2025.

'Lionel GLENDENNING Obituary'

It was sadly announced in the *Sydney Morning Herald* that architect Lionel Glendenning had died on 21 May, 2025. Many who had worked at the Powerhouse Museum from the 1980s to the present, remembered him well. A key Alliance member is his wife, former deputy director, Jennifer Sanders. Published by The Sydney Morning Herald on May 31, 2025, the Obituary included:

'GLENDENNING, Lionel William Augustus: 10 August 1941 – 21 May 2025

Architect, Inaugural R.G. Menzies Scholar to Harvard University, Graduate School of Design 1968/69'

Following detailed references to family members, the Obituary also concluded:

'Relatives and friends of LIONEL are invited to attend his Funeral Service on Thursday, June 5, 2025, Magnolia Chapel, Macquarie Park Crematorium, Plassey Rd, North Ryde commencing at 2.00 pm.

SMH: <https://tributes.smh.com.au/.../lionel-glendenning...>

Livestream Link: unityfunerals.com.au/funeral-notice/

Powerhouse Museum Alliance wrote on its Facebook page:

'It is so sad to know that we have lost Lionel Glendenning, who was the architect behind the award-winning adaptations of the old Powerhouse building in Ultimo, leading to a highly regarded Powerhouse Museum. Over the last 10 years MANY, MANY people have fought to stop the demolition of this work, and it is a tragedy that Lionel has not been able to see what we hope will be a real 'saving' of the site. I am very glad that I (Grace Cochrane) was able to see, and speak to him, recently. We can share our good memories with his family at his funeral on 5 June.'

Judith Coombs wrote on the Powerhouse Museum Alumni Facebook page:

'We are very sad to say farewell to Lionel Glendenning, who died peacefully last week at home with Jennifer and his children. He was the architect of our beloved Powerhouse Museum for which he was awarded the Sir John Sulman Medal for Public Architecture in 1988, the highest prize in architecture in NSW. Lionel and Jennifer have shown extraordinary leadership in the long campaign to save the museum in Ultimo. I think we can say that the Powerhouse would not have a future in Ultimo without their passion and deep commitment to what museums mean for our society.

All our sympathies are with Jennifer, Alex, and family. You left an indelible legacy.

Save the Powerhouse also circulated information on Facebook and by email:

RIP LIONEL GLENDENNING: Our friend and mentor Lionel Glendenning died peacefully last week. He was the architect of record for the Powerhouse Museum in Ultimo for which he was awarded the Sir John Sulman Medal for Public Architecture in 1988, the highest prize in architecture in NSW. Lionel was a fierce opponent of the Powerhouse Museum's so-called "Revitalisation" which will destroy most of his acclaimed work of transforming the old Ultimo Power Station into the world-class Applied Arts and Science Museum we all loved. He died fighting the destructive "Revitalisation" project but, sadly, the wrecking ball will soon reduce his Wran Heritage masterpiece to dust. All our sympathies to his loyal wife Jennifer, his children and family. Rest in Peace Lionel we, and all museum and heritage lovers, honour you. You left an indelible legacy.



The Obituary read:

10 August 1941 – 21 May 2025

GLDENNING, Lionel William Augustus

Architect. Inaugural R.G. Menzies Scholar to Harvard University, Graduate School of Design 1968/69

Much loved husband of Jennifer Sanders and father of Alex.

Loving father and father-in-law of Lionel Geoffrey & Yoko, Claire, Katie, and Chloe Glendenning & Greg Naud.

Adored grandfather of Lionel-Haruto & Christopher-Akira, Aadi, Jonathan & Rupi and Luna. Dear son of Lionel George and Valerie Glendenning (both deceased). Dearly loved brother and brother-in-law of Donald & Jan, David (deceased) & Carol and Leonie. Loved uncle and great-uncle of their children and grandchildren.

Loved and respected son-in-law of Don Sanders AO CB (deceased) and Betty Sanders.

Dear brother-in-law of Michael & Sadhana, Robert & Franj, Jonathan & Robin and Martin.

Loved uncle of their children.

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