

# *My Green Lake Story: Jerry Oliver*

I worked on the summer staff at Green Lake for three years in the 1960s. I was on the student staff in 1963 and worked as a dishwasher. In 1965 and 1967, I was a member of the young adult staff and worked in transportation. I have been there as a guest on other occasions over the last 50 years.

The people I met and worked with during my summers at Green Lake really are at the top of my list. Sitting in the staff lounge before meals, laughing and enjoying my many friends, sitting on the point watching the sun come up or climbing Judson Tower to look out over the beautiful grounds and lake were always special times. Working on the drama team, participating in formal and informal worship services were great experiences. I loved driving the bus and giving guided bus tours of the grounds to the guests. It always really made me remember what a wonderful gift we have.



The three summers I worked at Green Lake were some of the most meaningful and memorable summers of my life. I worked with wonderful people who I stayed close to for many years. I was in a great setting where I had the opportunity to grow as a person and as a Christian. There was always a real sense of walking closer to God when on the grounds, even when the chores of my work were demanding. I always felt safe, secure and in a special place not only because of its beauty or the people, but mostly because no matter what was happening, the focus of everything always came back to serving God. I could be tired, discouraged or maybe even having a disagreement with someone but then remember why I was there.

*“Each year I went home after my time at Green Lake in a different relationship with God. I grew as a person but also as a Christian.”*

Each year I went home after my time at Green Lake in a different relationship with God. I grew as a person but also as a Christian. There were so many wonderful models and opportunities while at Green Lake to grow intellectually, emotionally and spiritually. I thank God and the many people around me for that opportunity.

