



Fred Gene Taylor Jr.

September 6, 1935 - July 23, 2018

Fred Gene Taylor, Jr., resident of Kingston, Tennessee, passed away July 23, 2018, at the age of 82. He was preceded in death by his parents Fred Gene Taylor, Sr. and Lucille Richardson Taylor, brother, James Taylor, and brother-in-law Arthur Desjardins. He is survived by his wife of 19 years, Carolyn Taylor (Kingston), daughter Jennifer Taylor Reeves (Robert) of Smyrna, TN, son Ronald Gene Taylor (Leann) of Baxter, TN, grandson Taylor Wayne Reeves (Chelsea) of Memphis, granddaughters Hudson Noelle Taylor, Hope Garrett Taylor, and Holly Rhea Taylor of Baxter, and sister, Beverly Desjardins of Hixson, TN.

Mr. Taylor was born on September 6, 1935, in Columbia, Tennessee. He spent most of his formative years in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, graduating from Oak Ridge High School in 1954. He was active in the Boy Scouts of America and attained the level of Eagle Scout and belonged to the Order of the Arrow. He served in the U.S. Army from 1955 to 1957 as a photographer for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, in Heidelberg, Germany.

Upon returning to the United States, he enrolled at the University of Tennessee but later transferred to Washington State University, graduating with a B.S. in Botany in 1961. He earned a Ph.D. in Ecology in 1990 from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

Mr. Taylor was employed by the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, in the Environmental Sciences Division from 1963 to 1985. He was a research staff member for the Environmental and Health Protection

Division, at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory from 1986 to 1991. From 1991 until his retirement, he was a Senior Project Manager and Senior Scientist for Hazardous Waste Remedial Actions Program at the Oak Ridge Gaseous Diffusion Plant.

Mr. Taylor received various professional and academic honors during his career including Marquis Who's Who in the South and Southwest, 11th, 12th, and 15th editions, Personalities of the South 1968-1969, Xi Sigma Pi Honor Fraternity, University of Tennessee, Sigma Xi Research Society, along with 90 publications in his field of expertise.

Affectionately known as Buddy, he loved hunting, fishing, spending time with friends and family, and traveling to Switzerland and Germany.

His family will always cherish his sweet disposition and kind ways. His love and respect of the outdoors and nature were apparent to all who knew him and instilled in his children.

Known as Grandpa T, to a grandson he was the builder of cardboard space ships and an adventure partner at Stones River Battlefield, trail number 4. To his granddaughters, he will always be remembered for sitting on the couch exchanging stories of frolicking felines, brushing up on the latest trends of cell phone technology, and awaiting the return from hunting trips to hear the rendition of the "Great Capture" or sometimes, "The One that Got Away"

Per his wish, there will be no visitation or funeral services, but a Celebration of Life at a later date with family and close friends. While there will be no formal service at this time, he requested that family and friends take a moment and reflect on the poem, "Crossing the Bar", by Alfred Lord Tennyson. Mr. Taylor was a disciple of Christ and attended the Central Church of Christ in Harriman, Tennessee, and it is with great assurance the family knows "he met his pilot having crossed the bar."

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to the Spring Hill Children's Home, Spring Hill, Tennessee, an organization he greatly respected for their work with children.

Tribute Wall

DM

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Don Miller - December 13, 2021 at 07:35 AM

DM

Fred is on right end 2nd row. Sorry I was unaware of his passing until a friend in Switzerland noted his Christmas gift was returned. Fred and I were friends from 1948 til,now. We participated in group activities and alone just the 2 of us. I always enjoyed his knowledge of nature and sly humor. My life in recent years has been full of family and volunteer activities, unfortunately resulting in loss of contact. I also lost contact with Jimmy, and am sorry. This photo was a celebration of the UN activities and patriotism with Troop 226 which met at the Scout hut behind Linden School. Mr. Anderson was the Scoutmaster.

Don Miller - December 13, 2021 at 07:50 AM

FH

“ I just learned of Fred’s passing. I regret that I had lost connections with Fred as he was a significant part of my early career at ORNL. Fred helped me in many ways. We enjoyed some fishing expeditions on Watts Bar, and had many pleasant times together. Fred loved to hunt and fish...anything outdoors. He did some very interesting research on the phenology of flowering plants on the Oak Ridge Reservation, research that would be interesting to repeat in the face of a changing climate. As I said, Fred loved to hunt deer and despite experience was subject to “buck fever”. He recounted following one hunt that his excitement led him to repeatedly try to load his chapstick rather than a shell...the deer survived for another day. I am sad at the loss of a friend, sad for his family, and sad for the loss of a genuine good person from our midst.

Frank Harris - October 26, 2018 at 07:43 AM

BH

“ Please accept my deepest sympathy and sincerest condolences for your loss. Fred "Buddy" was a long time neighbor and friend and one of the most intelligent people I've ever known. He was always willing and able to lend his advice and expertise whenever I would need some help with school work or projects. I reflect back on some of the times we went hunting or fishing or shooting and the things I learned from him, I still practice today. One funny experience many years ago, we were shooting and every time we would shoot, someone up the hollow from us would shoot. Come to find out, it was a deputy sheriff signaling to who he thought was the sheriff and a wrecker coming to get the moonshine still the deputy had just found !! We had a good laugh about that. Fred will certainly be missed. Buddy, R.I.P. old friend.



Bobby Hodge

Bobby Hodge - July 29, 2018 at 10:44 AM

JR

Bobby,

Thank your for your kind note and funny moonshine story! I had never heard that one! Your family has always been dear friends and neighbors to mine. We appreciate your taking the time to respond to this tribute and share your thoughts about Daddy. You are correct - he will certainly be missed.

*Sincerely,
Jennifer Taylor Reeves*

Jennifer Reeves - July 29, 2018 at 06:26 PM

AD

“*Fred was a great man he was good to my mother Carolyn taylor and was good to me he loved having my son come over just to chat or stay the night he was a very smart man with several stories to tell about his life and he truly loved life he will be missed*

Angie jones (step daughter) - July 27, 2018 at 07:39 PM