



William Joseph "Bill" Taylor

July 3, 1932 - May 4, 2018

William Joseph "Bill" Taylor, 85, of Tequesta, FL, husband of Ann (FitzGibbon) Taylor died Friday, May 4, 2018 at the Jupiter Pavilion surrounded by family and love. Born in Hartford, CT on July 3, 1932, Bill was the son of the late Harold S. and Evelyn (McKenna) Taylor. His father died when he was 8 and his mother remarried a U.S. Coast Guard officer, H.R. "King" Cotton. After numerous relocations, Bill's family moved to Coral Gables, FL where he attended Saint Theresa High School and first met Ann. They married on September 6, 1952. Bill decided to pursue a career with Taylor & Modeen Funeral Home, a company co-founded by his grandfather in Hartford, CT. He received a degree from Eckels School of Mortuary Science in Philadelphia. After graduation, he served with the U.S. Coast Guard before moving to Hartford where he assumed a leadership role with the company. Bill expanded the funeral home in Connecticut, opening branches in Bloomfield and West Hartford. In 1968, he opened a location in Tequesta, FL, where he moved his family and resided for the rest of his life. Bill entered politics as a Tequesta Councilman and later held a seat in Florida House of Representatives. He established the first movie theater in Tequesta where most of the town children could be found on a Saturday morning. In 1981, Bill founded the T & M Ranch, a community for mentally disabled adults in Indiantown, FL; a truly progressive program at the time. Bill was a valued asset in numerous civic and philanthropic organizations. He served on Board of Directors of the Jupiter Medical Center, the Jupiter Medical Pavilion, Board Member of the

Palm Beach County United Way, President of the Palm Beach and Florida Association of Retarded Citizens, President of the JTAA, President of the Tequesta Country Club and a longtime parishioner of St. Jude Catholic Church. When in West Hartford, Bill was a charter member of St. Timothy Parish and a member of Wampanoag Country Club, where he developed many lifelong friendships. Bill vastly enjoyed his time with children and grandchildren. He embraced and usually hosted holidays and celebrations too numerous to count, week long family reunions with Ann's extended family and eventually realized his life time dream of establishing a vacation home in North Carolina where his growing family enjoyed countless laughs, games and rounds of golf. Bill and Ann also spent many hours at his favorite haunt, The Tequesta Country club, with a wonderful circle of friends. Bill's combined strength of character, sense of fairness, and depth of compassion are reflected in all that he did. He served his family and community with honor and dignity and his contributions will be reflected for many years to come.

Bill is survived by Ann, his wife of 65 years; two sisters, Jan (Paul) Davisson and Kerry Wells; and nine children, Ann Upton, William J. (Julie Rosenthal) Taylor, Jr., Joan Taylor, Carol Taylor Block, J. Michael (Maria) Taylor, James Taylor, Andrew (Laura Krajewski) Taylor, Ellen (Steve) Eady, and Amy Taylor. He also leaves 18 grandchildren, Mark, Chris and Andrew Upton; Meghan (Nick) Taylor-Steshyn; Andrew, Sarah, Anna, Perry and Emily Block; Andrew and Melissa Taylor; PFC Ryan Taylor; Ann (Steve) McAdams and Katie, and Matthew Taylor; and John, Wells(Anna) and Allie Eady; and 2 great grandchildren, Wynn and Audrey Eady; a large extended family of cousins, nieces and nephews; and many dear friends.

A Visitation will be held on Monday, May 7th from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Taylor & Modeen Funeral Home, 250 Center Street, Jupiter, FL. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 8th at St. Jude Catholic Church, 204 N US Highway One, Tequesta. Burial will follow at Riverside Memorial Park, Tequesta. In lieu of flowers, Donations may be made to Jupiter Medical Center Foundation, 1210 S. Old Dixie Highway,

Jupiter, FL 33458.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 7. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Taylor & Modeen Funeral Home
250 Center Street
Jupiter, FL 33458
(561) 744-2030
<https://www.taylorandmodeenflorida.com>

Mass of Christian Burial

MAY 8. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Jude Catholic Church
204 N U.S. 1
Tequesta, FL

Tribute Wall



“ Taylor & Modeen Funeral Home of Jupiter created a Tribute Video in memory of William Joseph "Bill" Taylor



Taylor & Modeen Funeral Home - October 07, 2020 at 09:44 AM



“ William Joseph "Bill" Taylor

October 22, 2023 at 10:17 AM



“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Carol Block - March 19, 2019 at 08:41 AM



“ Carol Block lit a candle in memory of William Joseph "Bill" Taylor



Carol Block - March 19, 2019 at 08:24 AM

CB

“ *Miss you every day, dad.*

Carol Block - March 19, 2019 at 07:57 AM

MH

“ *Thinking of you prayerfully, Carol and family, as you mourn, remember and give thanks for your dad's productive and full life. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.*

Mark Higgins, Hall-Wynne Funeral Service, Durham, NC

Mark Higgins - June 01, 2018 at 10:20 AM

BV

“ *Such a great family! Our daughter attends book club with Bill's daughter and granddaughter, as well as Art Class. As hard as it is, please know that you and your family are in our prayers and we hope you all will have brighter days ahead!!!*

Beth and Morgan Vandenberg - May 09, 2018 at 04:52 PM

DT

“ *Please know that the Glades communities mourn the loss of Bill Taylor. His work in establishing the ARC of the Glades 40 plus years ago still resonates throughout. Though I met Bill just over a year ago, I had heard of his passion for the rights and successes of those with cognitive and developmental disabilities. Please accept our condolences. Bill will indeed be missed.*

*On behalf of the members of the Board of the ARC of the Glades,
Dr. William R. Taylor
President*

Dr. William R. Taylor - May 09, 2018 at 07:13 AM

GT

“ I've known Bill Taylor and some of his family since the early 70s when he hired me to work at the ARC. I regret I am in NC instead of PBC right now or I would be there with his plethora of friends. Taylor Modeen and formerly the T&M Ranch are testaments of just a few of his gifts to our community.

Gail Tyndall

Gail Tyndall - May 08, 2018 at 02:21 PM

DF

“ On behalf of the members of The Arc of Florida, I want to extend our condolences and wishes for comfort to Bill's family.

In the end we should all hope that the world is a better place because we have been here. For Bill, this was especially true.

Deborah Linton, CEO, The Arc of Florida - May 08, 2018 at 12:48 PM

SK

“ *The extended family that is The Arc of The Glades shares the loss of one of its own. Condolences and comfort to his family from our Board, staff and clients. Bill's last contact with us was at The Arc of The Glades' 40th anniversary Luncheon a year ago last March, an event where we acknowledged and thanked those that were important to establishing and maintaining our organization. We were delighted to see him! Bill was a driving force in our agency's creation and in advocating for folks with Intellectual and developmental disabilities across the state. His commitment was evident in his time and effort not just with us, but as a Florida Legislator and as a Board member and President of The Arc of Palm Beach County and the Founder of T&M Ranch. His footprint was large and his path was meaningful to those he chose to serve.*

*Scot Kannel
Executive Director
The Arc of The Glades*

Scot Kannel - May 08, 2018 at 09:32 AM

SU

“ *Dear Ann,
My thoughts are with you and all of your family. Unfortunately I am out of town or I would surely be there to honor my mentor and my friend. He changed my life.*

Susan Padgett

Susan - May 07, 2018 at 07:53 PM

DG

God bless you Bill, you were a good man.

Dan Gladwin - May 08, 2018 at 12:45 PM

SC

“ My first memory of Bill goes back 40 years ago in my living room in Belle Glade. He proposed that we start a ARC for the Glades area. He was such a dedicated supporter of making the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities better. He will be greatly missed.

Sandra Chamblee - May 07, 2018 at 06:34 PM

JK

“ Ann, Andy, Carol and the entire Taylor family, We were saddened to learn of Bill's recent illness and passing. I have fond memories of coming down from Connecticut with my golf buddies to play in the T&M Ranch Community Annual Golf Tourney and personally experience Bill's "southern hospitality". Bill always pulled out the red carpet for us and it won't be forgotten. Bill lived his life with honor, dignity and service to God and will be eternally rewarded. God bless your entire family and may Bill rest in peace. Your friend from the North, John Kycia

John Kycia - May 07, 2018 at 08:18 AM

RD

“ My memory is of an always smiling man. I always admired him for many reasons. The Davisson's thoughts and prayers are with you

Richard, Shane, Emily and Reed Davisson

richard Davisson - May 06, 2018 at 08:29 PM

TH

Bill always made me feel special each time we met because he was as happy to see me as I was to see him. No matter that he treated each of us just the same way. It was truly the mark of this great man to always consider others before himself. I loved playing golf with Bill and will always continue to think of him when I listen to Ben Hogan's Five Lessons. My prayers are with each of you. God bless,

Timothy Hutchinson

Timothy Hutchinson - May 06, 2018 at 10:40 PM

TC

“*Dear Taylor Family,
Mr. Bill Taylor was a good friend to my father, mother and family dating back to the early 1960's in West Hartford, CT. We had a lot of respect for Mr. Taylor and enjoyed his friendship for the last 57 years. He was always a good neighbor, full of integrity and honor and loved his family. The Clark family would like to extend our condolences to the Taylor family for your loss. As Andrew Taylor well knows, my own Dad's funeral was handled by Taylor & Modeen's funeral home in West Hartford less than a week ago. We share your sense of loss and grief in many ways. I have to smile though picturing Bill and my father finding each other in the newcomers meeting just inside the pearly gates.
Our sincere condolences,
Tom Clark III and family.*

Thomas E. Clark - May 06, 2018 at 07:53 PM

MC

“ Ann, Amy & Family,
There is always time to speak of a man who loved helping people in need. Bill is responsible for the life skills of our son. We always welcomed his warm and touching smile in the rough times that we encountered. His mannerism of handling the toughest was what we will always remember about Bill. "No" or "I can't" was never in his vocabulary. Our prayers go out to his beautiful family. Amy, you will always be your Dad's inspiration for us. He will truly be missed by all that knew him. May Bill rest peacefully in the arms of our Lord. Until we meet again, may God Bless You Bill and keep you at His side..... Love From All of Us, Mary Rose, Wil and especially Jimmy

Mary Rose, Wil Fleurant & Jimmy Covino - May 06, 2018 at 09:54 AM

MM

“ John and I were so sorry to hear of Bill's passing.He helped so many in our community,as well as us.when we were looking for a place for our mentally handicapped daughter to attend,we talked to Bill, he said only one place is good enough for Kathleen,it was Stewart Home School in Frankfort Ky. He was so right, Kathleen has attended there for 30 happy years and thanks to Bill, he gave us peace of mind knowing she will always be taken care of. Thank you again dear friend. RIP Our prayers go out to all the family John and Marilyn McCarthy

marilyn a mccarthy - May 06, 2018 at 09:33 AM

PJ

“ Our love and prayers go out to Bill Taylor's family and friends.
Love, The Davissons, Paul, Renie, Erin and Samantha



Paul V Davisson Jr - May 06, 2018 at 08:54 AM

CF

“ *Mr Taylor was a very kind and gentle man. He would often come into Tequesta Drugs and we'd talk about his golf game. He always made pleasant conversation and left us with a smile. He will be missed. Rest in Paradise, Mr Taylor.*
Cherie Faucher~Tequesta Resident

cherie faucher - May 06, 2018 at 06:11 AM