



Richard L. Taylor

February 6, 1933 - March 5, 2018

Richard L. “Dick” Taylor, 85, passed away peacefully Monday March 5th, 2018, surrounded by family, after a year-long battle with cancer. He is preceded in death by his parents Robert and Elizabeth Taylor of Venice, Florida.

Dick was a 1954 graduate of the Ohio State University, where as a member of “The Best Damn Band In The Land” he “dotted the I” in script Ohio. He added an MA degree in 1971 and went on to serve on the OSU faculty in the Department of Aviation for 22 years as Associate Professor Emeritus.

A military and civilian pilot for 47 years, he acquired 12,000 hours of flight time in a wide variety of aircraft and held a number of aviation certificates and ratings. Dick achieved the rank of Major in the United States Air Force Reserve and traveled the world as an Air Force pilot. He was a nationally-known author of 20 books in the field of aviation; was the founder, editor, and primary contributor to the Pilot’s Audio Update for 33 years; and served many years as a consultant and expert witness in the investigation and litigation of aircraft accidents.

Dick was a life member of the Sigma Chi fraternity at OSU, and in 2005 was named a “Significant Sig” by the organization, joining only 1,867 men to have achieved this honor since 1935. He was a great lover of music and a founding member of the Dublin Wind Symphony. He served as a volunteer for the Central Ohio Radio Reading Service, Meals on Wheels, and the Air Force Museum in Dayton, Ohio. He was a member of Indian Run Methodist Church

in Dublin.

Dick will be forever remembered by family and friends as a kind and loving man of integrity, intelligence, and good humor.

He is survived by Nancy, his loving wife of 63 years; daughter Julie; son Rich (Karen) Taylor and grandsons Max and Cam; daughter Mary Beth (Mark) Farahay and granddaughters Bridget, Emma, and Hannah; sister Carol (Arthur) Bell of Venice, Florida; brothers-in-law Jim (Betty) Curtiss of London, Ohio and John (Berneda) Curtiss of Columbus.

Calling hours are Sunday, March 11 from 2pm to 5pm at RUTHERFORD FUNERAL HOME AT POWELL, 450 West Olentangy Street Powell, Ohio.

Funeral services will begin at 11am Monday, March 12 at INDIAN RUN METHODIST CHURCH, 6305 Brand Rd, Dublin, Ohio. A private burial service will be held at Dublin Cemetery.

Dick's family has asked that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Dublin Community Bands to help support their volunteer mission of sustaining the rich heritage of band excellence in the Dublin community. Donations can be made at www.dublinbands.com or sent to Dublin Community Bands, PO Box 4132 Dublin, Ohio 43016. To send an online condolence, please visit www.rutherfordfuneralhomes.com.

Cemetery Details

Dublin Cemetery

83 W. Bridge Street
Dublin, OH 43017
(614) 410-4700

Previous Events

Calling Hours

MAR 11. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Rutherford Funeral Home at Powell
450 West Olentangy Street
Powell, OH 43065
(614) 792-1471
info@rutherfordfuneralhome.com
<https://www.rutherfordfuneralhomes.com/>

Memorial Service

MAR 12. 11:00 AM (ET)

Indian Run United Methodist Church
6305 Brand Road
Dublin, OH 43016

Tribute Wall

MD

“ Listening to Dick Taylor now to CDs in my hangar working on my plane. Bought these in '08-'10. We, who never met him, still appreciate what he produced for our benefit. So for the time Mr Taylor spent away from you all while doing this project, please accept that it was worthwhile in some folks' minds.

Michael Davidson - March 09, 2025 at 03:19 PM

DB

“ Reading some of Richard's books now, they are deeply informative and happily personable. I'm learning so much and loving the little anecdotes and tails he throws in. It feels like he's talking straight to me! Thanks again for sharing all your knowledge, my condolences to the family.

Dan Busta - July 11, 2024 at 11:27 PM



“ Richard L. Taylor

January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM

JT

“ hi, daddy. i miss you every minute, every minute.

Julie Taylor - May 21, 2020 at 09:34 PM

JG

“ Dear Nancy, Julie, Rich and Mary Beth,

My deepest sympathy is extended to you at this sad time. I'll always treasure the great times we had in Florida and at family gatherings. Dick was always so fun to be around and that smile of his was one in a million. I'll always appreciate the work he did for our family tree and sharing his findings with the family.

I'm sorry I can't be there with you today, but I will definitely be there in thought and prayer.

So dear cousin, until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of his hand.

Jim Gray

Jim Gray - March 12, 2018 at 07:57 AM

RP

“ *My condolences to the Dick Taylor family. I cherish the memories of Dick and Nancy and will forever feel privileged to have had Rich, Julie and Mary Beth as students at Ridgeview Jr. High . Ray Pauken*

ray pauken - March 11, 2018 at 09:20 PM



“ *Dick was a great musician, a great friend, and a great man. It was a privilege and a pleasure to know him and I feel blessed that he came to our “little startup community band” and into my life.*

Jeff Chesser

Jeff Chesser - March 10, 2018 at 04:46 PM

AF

“ Dear Taylor Family,
On behalf of my father Richard McCombs, Dick's cousin, he and our entire family our wishes you peace and strength during this hard time. May memories comfort you all.

Amy McCombs Fredrick - March 10, 2018 at 11:29 AM

HU

“ God Bless and Thank YOU, Major Taylor for your service in The United States Air Force Reserve... RIP... And Semper Fi..... SIR.



Herb Guyer-Sharfenaker USMCR - March 09, 2018 at 06:32 PM



“ Bountiful Rose Basket was purchased for the family of Richard L. Taylor.



March 09, 2018 at 04:52 PM

DK

“ I am so very very sorry to hear of the illness and passing of Richard Taylor. I worked with/for him for so many years at The OSU Airport Flight School and Air Transportation Service. I have wonderful memories of those days. My thoughts and prayers are with Nancy and all his family during this time.

Deeda Kane - March 09, 2018 at 12:32 PM

DM

“ I'm so sorry to hear of Professor Taylor's passing. He took a chance on me early in my career and as a result, I've been blessed beyond my wildest dreams. I know I'm only one of many who's lives were positively impacted by his guidance. He taught me how to act like a professional, let me fly airplanes I had no business flying, and even took his personal time to play golf with a lowly student when I was in Columbus. I'm so thankful I was able to attend last falls Aviation Alumni Reunion and catch up with him. Your family is in my thoughts and prayers. Dave

David Mills - March 09, 2018 at 11:58 AM

JS

“ With greatest sympathy to the Taylor family. Many happy times as neighbors & friends. Cherish the good times & stressful times when Dick was in Korea. Dick always had a smile & positive messages. So happy to have known him. Jan & Robin Schmidt

Jan Schmidt - March 09, 2018 at 09:56 AM

SM

On behalf of the Schmidt "kids", we are so very sorry for your loss. We have wonderful childhood memories of being your neighbors and friends. May precious memories sustain you.

Shely S. McBride - March 09, 2018 at 10:40 PM