



Gene Autry Taylor

January 14, 1940 - February 14, 2011

Gene Autry Taylor, 71, of Rushville, went home to be with the Lord on Monday, February 14, 2011 at Rush Memorial Hospital.

He was born January 14, 1940 in Wickes, Arkansas, the only child of J.D. and Verna (Bingham) Taylor.

Gene was a patient and compassionate person. His ardent love of the Lord led him to serve on numerous church boards and to sell his business to become the director of Beulah Mountain Children's Home and Academy in Beulah Heights Kentucky. He served there for over 18 years. He also served as the Volunteer Fire Chief in Beulah Heights for 13 years. For many years he worked as a diesel mechanic and most recently in quality control for ADT. He loved gardening and cooking and had a passion for preserving heirloom tomato seeds and recipes. He attended the Connersville Church of the Bible Covenant.

He is survived by his wife of over 50 years, Lora Fern (Jenkins) Taylor; a daughter, Rhonda (husband: Tim) Todd of Connersville; three sons, Richard (wife: Debra) Taylor of Greenfield, OH, Donald (wife: Sarah) Taylor of Rushville and Mark (wife: Skosha) Taylor of Greensburg; a host of children he raised as his own including, Lara Williams Mote, Edna, Calvin and Jeffrey Venable; and 19 grandchildren, Jennifer Todd of Lincoln, NE, John (wife: Ashleigh) Todd of Cincinnati, OH, Rebekah Todd of Shelbyville, Timothy N. Todd of Rock Island, IL, Joanna (husband: Roque) Brown of Indianapolis, Julia, Faith, James and Susanna Todd all of Connersville, Nathaniel (wife:

Annalisa) Taylor of Muncie, Nolan Taylor of Indianapolis, Michael Taylor of Connersville, Matthew, Melissa, Melody and Marianne Taylor all of Rushville, Kaylea, Kamian and Kloey Taylor of Greensburg.

He was preceded in death by a child he raised as his own, Tony Ray Williams and a grandson, Quinston Taylor.

A service in celebration of Gene's life will be held at 2:00 p.m. Thursday, February 17, 2011 at Woodland Bible Church, 835 W. County Road 300 N. Connersville, IN 47331 with the Revs Jerry Bell and Knox Bullock officiating. Burial will follow in Fairview Cemetery.

Friends may call from 4 – 8 p.m. Wednesday at the church and one hour prior to the service on Thursday.

You may send the family a personal condolence at www.sprolesfamilycares.com.

Arrangements are in the care of Sproles Family Funeral Home, 2400 South Memorial Dr. New Castle, IN 47362.

Tribute Wall

RB

“ If anyone deserves eternal happiness and rest it's Brother Taylor. I know he and Sis. Taylor had control of the Home for years but in the short time that my brother and I were students there, I do believe we aged them more than anyone would've thought possible. I'm so sorry, Sis. Taylor. *smile* Ever since about, oh, 3 days after I left the Home, I realized just how wonderful the Taylors were. Now I wish I had told them that more. To all the Taylor family, my condolences. I'm so glad to know Bro. Taylor is rejoicing in Heaven now, tho. {{hugs}}

Rebecca (Becky) Ginter B. - February 21, 2011 at 02:36 PM

SH

“ May the God of all comfort be near to you at this time of sorrow.

Steven Hallbauer - February 21, 2011 at 01:31 PM

JH

“ Sorry for your loss, I remember Bro. Taylor with a smile and am glad for things he taught me.
Joey

Joseph Holland - February 17, 2011 at 07:35 PM

RB

“ I will never forget Bro. Taylor or the impact he had on me. I was a lost and confused 15 yr old. My parents' respect for Gene & Lora Taylor was evident when they suggested I go stay with the Taylors for a while. I remember a new school where I knew no one and climbing onto the bus at day's end & seeing Gene Taylor's warm, beaming smile- which seemed to make everything better. He prayed for all of us at mealtimes and I could tell how sincere he was. I remember him trying to get me on one of the big horses, but I was too scared- so we settled on a cantankerous small Shetland. Although it was smaller, it liked to throw me. I can still remember Bro. Taylor's laugh and him telling me that I had to get back on right then or I never would. After a lot of falls and walking bowlegged and in pain, I finally got the hang of it and I loved riding that ornery little horse in the field behind the house, bareback, with my fingers in it's mane. I will never forget the warm smile, compassion, and patience of Gene Taylor or the influence he had on my life during a very difficult period. I know he is in heaven with my mama and maybe they are sharing a laugh about me falling off that horse again and again because they both had a streak of mischief in them.

Ruthie Bell - February 17, 2011 at 02:42 PM

MS

“ Pa Taylor had a profound impact on my life, and I shudder to think of where I would be without ever knowing him, he will be sorely missed.

Matthew Harris (Caleb Snyder) - February 16, 2011 at 09:30 PM

BM

“ Please know you are in my thoughts and prayers God Bless

Beth moore - February 16, 2011 at 07:51 PM

PC

“ You are in our thoughts and prayers.

Peggy Cook - February 16, 2011 at 07:51 PM

RL

“ Dear Sis. Taylor, Rhonda and Tim, Richard and Debbie, and the rest of the family,
Our hearts are saddened to hear the news of Bro. Taylor's passing, but we know he is in a better world and God will comfort your hearts. We wish we could be there. Our prayers are with you all.
Love, Robert and Mary Lauritzen

Robert and Mary Lauritzen - February 16, 2011 at 03:56 PM

RW

“ So sorry to hear of the passing of Bro. Taylor. We didn't know him well, but wish to express our condolences to his family. May the comfort of God be close to you at this time.

Rev. Brent and Nicki Woodard - February 16, 2011 at 12:16 PM

VE

“ My heart weighs heavy for you all although I find comfort in knowing he is with Jesus - the remembrance of his warm smile and hearty chuckle please my soul! May you all also find comfort!

Vickie Emberton - February 16, 2011 at 08:38 AM

DM

“ I havework with Gene's son Mark for several years. My sympathy goes out to all the friends and family of Mr. Taylor may God Bless You.

Dawn Martin - February 16, 2011 at 08:06 AM

DC

“ Don and Sarah, and all, may God give you peace and comfort at this time, giving you a glimpse of his enjoyment of Heaven.
David Cary.

David Cary - February 15, 2011 at 11:51 PM

TS

“ brother taylor was a great man. we might not have agreed on everything, but i looked at him as a father that i didnt have. my heart goes out to the family for their loss.

travis shultz - February 15, 2011 at 11:21 PM

RE

“ God bless your family

Robby Evans - February 15, 2011 at 09:53 PM

RH

“ Rhonda and Family, I always knew your Dad as a Beacon of Godly light, one of many that would lead me to salvation. Thank you for being my friend. Prayers of comfort to you and your family.

Rebecca (Willis) Hulse - February 15, 2011 at 09:51 PM

JK

“ I am so very sorry for the loss of Mr. Taylor. I remember riding his bus when I was in middle school. He was a great man and will be missed by all those who loved and knew him. May God give you comfort and strength during this time. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends.

Jennifer (Perry) Keith - February 15, 2011 at 09:21 PM

TT

“ Although you are grieving for Gene's passing, take comfort in knowing he is with Jesus, his parents, siblings and the children and friends who have gone before. Your loving memories of your time with him will console you.

Much love, Tim Taylor (Eulon & Virginia's son)

Timothy Taylor - February 15, 2011 at 09:04 PM

ES

“ To the Taylor Family. So sorry to here about Gene's passing but what a comfort to know where he is now and how much better off he is then we are. Take comfort in knowing We can see him again. I have alot of memories of the Taylor and Turner families..He will be missed. May God be extra close to each and everyone of you during this time.

Eric and Sissy Sanders - February 15, 2011 at 08:57 PM

LJ

“ Dear Aunt Lora Fern and Family, Just wanted to let you all know that we love you very much and are praying for you. We all know that Uncle Gene is in a lot better place. Wish we could come, but work and time does not allow. Again, love you very much! May God richly bless and comfort you in your time of sorrow and loss. Butch, Donetta and Family

Lloyd and Donetta Jenkins - February 15, 2011 at 08:57 PM

VA

“ I have very fond memories of Mr. Taylor when yall lived on highway 4, in Wickes. You are in my thoughts and prayers!

Love, Vicki

Vicki Piearcy Austin - February 15, 2011 at 07:45 PM

RD

“ *Gene was a real nice man and has a great family. He's in Heaven looking down on all of this! May God Bless the Family!*

Randal Davis - February 15, 2011 at 07:42 PM