



## Cecil "Gene" Taylor

December 15, 2020

Cecil "Gene" Taylor, 76, of Christiansburg, VA, formerly from Starnes Bluff, VA, passed peacefully into eternity Wednesday, December 15, 2020.

He was the youngest of 7 siblings, born to Anna Ruth (Sparks) Taylor and Henry Vernord Taylor in Starnes Bluff, VA. They preceded him in death, along with his 2 brothers and sister; Henry Emerson Taylor, John Franklin Taylor and Juanita June (Taylor) Hixon. Gene was also preceded in death by a precious great-grandchild Charlee Mayne Sharlow

Gene is survived by his adoring wife, Barbara Ann (Whetsel) Taylor of 55 amazing years. Gene and Barbara Taylor spent most of their lives working, as owners of the Dairy Queen, formerly in Blacksburg. They brightened and touched so many lives through employment, friendship and phenomenal customer care for over 3 decades.

Gene is survived by; 3 Sisters, Bernice Jones, Florence Francisco and Kate Whetsel. He is also survived by his 3 children and their spouses; Emily Taylor Brooks (Ben), Jason "Brad" Taylor (Kari) and Amy Taylor Rhodes (Lee). He was an adored Papaw to 11 grandchildren; Courtney Johnson, Ethan Rutherford, Brandon & Miranda Taylor, Kaylee & Matthew Rose, Cloe Taylor, Bryan Taylor, Matthieu & Chelsea Sharlow, Ryan & Victoria Sharlow, Cassandra Sharlow, Samuel "Cody" & Marianna Rhodes and Santanna Rhodes. 8 great-grandchildren were also blessed to call him Papaw; Cecilla Johnson, Avery Bonds, Brysen and Brooks Taylor, Dakotah Sharlow, Micah, Braxton & Addilyn Sharlow, Elizabeth Dae Barker and Memphys Rayne Rhodes. There is also an enormous amount of the grandkid's friends and previous young employees who called Gene Taylor, "Papaw" as well; those were family by love. Funeral arrangements will be as follows: Funeral Services will be conducted Monday, December 21, 2020 at 1:00 pm in McCoy Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Mike Vest officiating. Interment will follow in Roselawn Memorial Gardens. The family will receive friends on Monday from 12-1 pm. Due to Covid-19 restrictions masks and social distancing will be required. In lieu of flowers memorial contribution may be made to the Children Miracle Network, 205 West 700 South Salt Lake City UT 84101. Arrangements by McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg.





# Comments

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“ Barbara, I was so sorry to hear of Gene's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Joan Vinson - December 23, 2020 at 07:33 PM

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“ Mike Turner purchased the Plants-A-Plenty for the family of Cecil "Gene" Taylor.



Mike Turner - December 19, 2020 at 11:36 AM

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“ White Sympathy Standing Baskets was purchased for the family of Cecil "Gene" Taylor.



December 19, 2020 at 09:40 AM

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“ Red & White Sympathy Standing Basket was purchased for the family of Cecil "Gene" Taylor.



December 19, 2020 at 09:32 AM

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“ Diane Blevins lit a candle in memory of Cecil "Gene" Taylor



**Diane Blevins** - December 19, 2020 at 12:19 AM



“ Gene was a very caring person always there when you needed him like the night I wrecked my bike he dropped everything to come to my rescue and help me

**Diane Blevins** - December 19, 2020 at 12:22 AM

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“ Barbara, I am so very sorry to hear of Gene's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your entire family. When I think of you both I think of all your family pictures hanging on your walls. Gene was a great guy, and I'm very sorry he is gone. Take care of yourself, and I will pray that this becomes easier as time goes by but I realize you two were together for so many years. Much love. April Stanley Clark



**April Stanley Clark** - December 18, 2020 at 11:41 PM

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“ Healing Tears - All White was purchased for the family of Cecil "Gene" Taylor.



December 18, 2020 at 09:04 PM

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“ Lavender & White Standing Spray was purchased for the family of Cecil "Gene" Taylor.



December 18, 2020 at 08:53 PM

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“ Barbara and Family. I am so sorry to hear about the passing of Gene. He will be missed. May God bless and comfort each of you during this difficult journey. We pray that God will touch and heal your broken hearts a little each day. Much love being sent to you Barbara and family. I have thought of you both so many times. Prayers continue.

**Charlotte Epperley** - December 18, 2020 at 01:58 AM

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“ My thoughts and prayers are with you all!



**Melissa Poole** - December 17, 2020 at 06:44 PM

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“ Lol I remember when pawpaw told me story about him And rick cut nana carpet with lawn mower in basement man I have so many with pawpaw this breaks my heart I know u In better place pawpaw fly high watch over all grandkids and babies



**Princess Belcher-Hopkin** - December 17, 2020 at 03:37 PM

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“ So sorry to hear about Gene's passing. My name is Sam Starnes. I grew up with Gene and all of his siblings on Starnes Bluff. Many happy memories going to church, playing ball, and fishing in the Woods Pond. I want to express my condolences, and my thoughts are with you during this time.

**Bettye Starnes** - December 17, 2020 at 11:24 AM

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“ It was with great sadness that I learned of Gene’s passing. He will be missed by so many. Anyone who worked at Dairy Queen on Route 460 knew what a fun-loving person he was. He constantly made everyone laugh by cracking jokes, and he always had a smile on his face. But, he also had a genuine quiet, caring way about him that I will never forget.

Before committing his time fully to Dairy Queen, he owned and ran a car lot. After weeks of convincing me I could do it, he sold me my first “grown-up” car. He knew what I was driving was sub-par, and since I was pregnant it really bothered him. He more than likely had to pull some strings to help me out, but he or Barbara would have never told me that. They were the dynamic duo in so many ways, and helped all who worked for them in one way or another.

When you get older, you realize that the people around you helped shape the person you are. I can confidently say that Gene was one who shaped my life in a responsible, kind and positive way.

Barbara, Emily, Brad and Amy—please accept my heartfelt condolences, and know that I’m thinking of you during this difficult time.

Sharing in your sorrow with love and friendship,  
Amanda (and Steve) Gland

**Amanda Gland** - December 17, 2020 at 11:14 AM

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“ I was 11 or 12 years old when Barbara (my sister) and Gene started dating. Gene quickly became the older brother who taught me how to fish and drive a car. Later in life he and Barbara opened their home to me during holiday and summer breaks from college. Gene was a good friend, husband, and brother. I shall miss him. Dale W. Whetsel



**Dale W. Whetsel** - December 17, 2020 at 10:19 AM

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“ Classic Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Cecil "Gene" Taylor.



December 16, 2020 at 07:19 PM

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“ Knew Gene since we were kids, spent many hours playing and fishing together. The Starnes Bluff Boys are passing at an alarming rate, 3 in the last couple of months. RIP my friend

**Tom Starnes** - December 16, 2020 at 07:12 PM

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“ Jennifer Kilgore lit a candle in memory of Cecil "Gene" Taylor



**Jennifer Kilgore** - December 16, 2020 at 07:05 PM