



## 1SG (Ret) Johnny Wayne Taylor Sr.

October 11, 1947 - March 11, 2020

Johnny Wayne Taylor, Sr., of Laquey, Missouri, died peacefully in his home on March 11, 2020, with his family by his side.

Johnny was born on October 11, 1947 in Springfield, Missouri to Glenn E. and Delah J. (Barton) Taylor. His real “Pop” came along in 1972 when Johnny’s mother married George C. Hopper. He grew up in the Springfield area attending Willard High School. He enjoyed playing softball and basketball. He attended Homeland Baptist Church in Springfield, often playing on its softball team.

On October 15, 1966, Johnny married his childhood sweetheart, Ruthie Siler, at Homeland Baptist Church in Springfield. They shared over 53 years of marriage and had two sons: Johnny W. Taylor, Jr., and Steven L. Taylor.

Johnny joined the United States Army in April 1966. He trained with the 9th Infantry Division to go to Vietnam. He received a Purple Heart for wounds in action. During his 20-year career in the U.S. Army, he received many more medals and honors. He enjoyed his time in the military, being a soldier and serving his country.

After retiring from the military, Johnny went to work at Fort Leonard Wood, driving trucks for the transportation motor pool (TMP). He brought the first

manscen truck to Fort Leonard Wood. It was assigned to him and he spent over 21 years at the TMP before retiring.

He worked at the Pulaski County Sheriff's Department for over 20 years as a reserve officer. He was Chief for reserve officers. He was also a member of the Special Reaction Team (SRT). He was a law enforcement certified sniper and he enjoyed his time in law enforcement, being a deputy, the many people he worked with and serving his community.

In 1998, he started the Laquey Neighborhood Watch Program, serving as president.

After Johnny and Ruthie retired in 2009, they loved to go Rv'ing, travel, spend time with their children and grandchildren. Most of all they enjoyed being together. They always found time to sit in their swing, count their blessings and enjoy life.

Johnny was always a hard worker and a good provider for his family. He loved to be outside, enjoying nature, taking care of his home and yard. He liked to build things, tinker in his shop or play pool. His favorite hobby was shooting. He was a great marksman, teaching his children and grandchildren to shoot, but respect and practice safety.

Johnny leaves to cherish his memory, his wife, Ruthie; his sons, Johnny Jr. (Jennifer) and Steven (Amanda); brothers, Micheal Taylor (Louise) and Sonny Hopper (Sharon); sister, Carlann Friend (Ronnie); grandchildren, Garrett Tucker (Klaudia), Olivia Taylor, Freedom and Logan Hicks, Faith, Miles and Jensen Taylor; great grandson, Max Tucker; and many nieces and nephews.

Johnny was preceded in death by Delah J. Hopper (mother), George C. Hopper (Pop), Danny Parscale and Garry Taylor (brothers) and Deborah

Brizendine (sister).

Services were held at 1:00 p.m. Monday, March 16, 2020 in the Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville / St. Robert with Pastor Danny Graves officiating. Johnny's sons, Johnny Jr. and Steven, played their guitars as Olivia, Johnny's granddaughter sang "One Day At a Time". The songs "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" by Willie Nelson and "I'll Fly Away" by Alan Jackson were played. Serving as escorts were family and friends. Burial followed in the Sunset Memorial Estates Cemetery of Waynesville.

Memorial contributions may be made in memory of 1SG (Ret) Johnny Taylor and may be left at Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville / St. Robert.

# Cemetery Details

## Sunset Memorial Estates Cemetery

Highway 17 South  
Waynesville, MO 65583  
(573) 774-6111  
memorialchapels@embarqmail.com

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**MAR 16.** 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville/St. Robert  
202 Historic 66 W.  
Waynesville, MO 65583  
(573) 774-6111  
memorialchapels@embarqmail.com

## Service

**MAR 16.** 1:00 PM (CT)

Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville/St. Robert  
202 Historic 66 W.  
Waynesville, MO 65583  
(573) 774-6111  
memorialchapels@embarqmail.com

# Tribute Wall



“ *Memorial Chapels and Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of 1SG (Ret) Johnny Wayne Taylor Sr.*



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**Memorial Chapels and Crematory** - March 16, 2020 at 11:44 AM



“ *1SG (Ret) Johnny Wayne Taylor Sr.*

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January 28, 2023 at 06:53 AM



“ *Linda Cole-Schonbok sent a virtual gift in memory of 1SG (Ret) Johnny Wayne Taylor Sr.*



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**Linda Cole-Schonbok** - March 16, 2020 at 08:43 AM



*So sorry for your loss Ruthie!!!*

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**Linda Cole-Schonbok** - March 16, 2020 at 08:43 AM

TA

“ Johnny and Ruthie were were such a fun couple. He was always smiling and his sense of humor was infectious. My sincere condolences to the family.  
Tina Anderson

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**Tina Anderson** - March 16, 2020 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ Such a great loss to friends, family & community...



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**Mary Witman** - March 15, 2020 at 04:05 PM

BS

“ Brenda Spracklen lit a candle in memory of 1SG (Ret) Johnny Wayne Taylor Sr.



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**Brenda Spracklen** - March 13, 2020 at 09:23 PM

BS

“ Condolences to Ruthie and the entire Taylor family. We have fond memories of being neighbors, even had two step lessons from Johnnie and Ruthie! We think of you fondly and hope knowing you are part of our wonderful memories of Missouri bring a bit of comfort in this sad time.  
Barb and Bernie Stearos

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**Barbara Stearos** - March 13, 2020 at 07:55 PM



“ 258 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



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**Memorial Chapels and Crematory** - March 13, 2020 at 03:46 PM

CB

“ Our deepest condolences to family members and friends of *1SG(Ret) Taylor, Sr* with prayers for comfort and strength in the days ahead. *Rest In Peace!*

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**CSM(Ret) Harold and Brigitte Burleson** - March 13, 2020 at 11:03 AM

PG

“ *Pulaski County Camp Gideons lit a candle in memory of 1SG (Ret) Johnny Wayne Taylor Sr.*



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**Pulaski County Camp Gideons** - March 13, 2020 at 11:00 AM

LH

“ I am in shock this morning and send my deepest condolences to Ruthie and the family. I loved this two-stepping handsome cowboy. Such a gentleman and a good friend. All my love. I will plan to attend his memorial. With tears in my eyes, your friend, Luge

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**Luge Hardman** - March 13, 2020 at 10:55 AM

RS

“ With sincere condolences. Rest Easy Johnny



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**Robert Schonbok** - March 13, 2020 at 06:07 AM

MF

“ Marie Farias lit a candle in memory of 1SG (Ret) Johnny Wayne Taylor Sr.



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**Marie Farias** - March 12, 2020 at 10:42 PM

DB

“ It was such a wonderful part of the TMP family and he will be missed by so many. Darlene Battle

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**Darlene Battle** - March 12, 2020 at 10:22 PM

DS

“ Johnny was an outstanding leader and friend and was always willing to assist new officers in learning the job

David Etheridge Sr - March 12, 2020 at 09:20 PM

 Cheryl  
Wise

“ Cheryl Wise lit a candle in memory of 1SG (Ret) Johnny Wayne Taylor Sr.



Cheryl Wise - March 12, 2020 at 06:41 PM

EB

“ Elmo And Louise Brantley lit a candle in memory of 1SG (Ret) Johnny Wayne Taylor Sr.



Elmo and Louise Brantley - March 12, 2020 at 05:52 PM