



## Thomas "Tom" Russell Taylor

July 18, 1949 - March 8, 2019

Thomas "Tom" R. Taylor, 69, of Winchester passed peacefully from this life, March 8th, 2019, at his home surrounded by his family. Tom's life began, July 18, 1949, in Peoria, the son of James Burnell and Shirley Ann Lynn Taylor.

Surviving is his wife Kim Taylor of Winchester and two children, Jennifer Davidson (fiancé, Glenn) and Noah Coker (friend, Ashley) all of Winchester. Tom was a proud grandfather of four grandchildren Alexis Davidson, Sophia Carmean, and Andrew and Eli Coker. Also surviving are two sisters, Sue (Merle) Fleming of Havana and Faith Taylor Sandman of San Jose, CA and a sister-in-law, Judy Lynn of Gilson.

Tom was raised in Lynchburg Township and became an avid duck hunter in his early years while helping at the A.E. Staley Jr. farm near Sanganois State Fish and Wildlife Conservation Area.

Tom served in the United States Army from 1969 to 1971. He served in the Delta Developers Unit as a Combat Engineer while in Vietnam from January 9, 1970 until February 28, 1971. While deployed Tom received the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, army commendation medal, and was recognized as a sharpshooter on M 14's and M-16s.

As a humble man Tom rarely mentioned his time spent in the armed forces but being able to participate in the honor flight to Washington DC was one of the highlights of his life.

Tom met Kim in 1991 and they married September 20, 1993. His family grew when he became a father-by-choice to Jennifer and Noah. Family was Tom's main priority. His kindness and patience made him an amazing father and grandfather. His children and grandchildren were the joys of his life. He enjoyed his many nieces and nephews and never passed up an opportunity to go to a family cookout, sit around the campfire with

friends and family reminiscing and laughing or taking road trips with his dear friend Mike. Tom was always willing to go out and eat, play a round of golf, and looked forward to the annual trip to the Ozarks with “the gang”

Tom was best known for his infectious smile and laugh, ornery shenanigans, sense of humor. Most of all, he was a daily example of humility, kindness, and grace even during the most difficult journey of his life.

Funeral services will be held 11:00 a.m. Saturday, March 16, 2019, at the Daws Family Funeral Home in Jacksonville. A visitation will be held 10:00 a.m. until the time of services at the funeral home. The family invites everyone to celebrate Tom’s life and share stories immediately follow the funeral service in the Daws’ banquet room where lunch will be provided. Memorials are suggested to the family.

# Events

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**MAR** **Visitation** 10:00AM - 11:00AM

**16**

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Daws Family Funeral Home - Jacksonville  
508 W. Vandalia, Jacksonville, IL, US, 62650

**MAR** **Celebration of Life** 11:00AM

**16**

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Daws Family Funeral Home - Jacksonville  
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# Comments

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“ Always a BIG SMILE.. It was great to see Tom at the various town events.. Concerts, Parades, and especially at Sophias school events.. Always a big smile . Even when he worked at Marshalls and you had to go up to the parts counter and pay for the work he had that smile..If I needed a part or had a question about the car he not only had the answer but he knew what the model and year of my car was.. After talking to Jennifer about his Honor flight i know that must have been a big highlight for him and Jennifer.. It was a very long delay with lots of problems but together they made it through it.. His smile will be missed by everybody but his legacy and his personality that affected many people will live forever.. We are newbies in this town but will never forget what he meant to the people of Winchester and his family.. Alexis had a beautiful tribute to grampa and we saw a few tears in the eyes and smiles of the people listening .

Bill and Dee Walquist

**Bill Walquist** - March 16 at 04:24 PM

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“ I will always remember when Chris started selling popcorn we would go to Marshall's and Tom always bought from Chris. He would tell him Do Not Tell Kim so she would buy more for him and home and he would have his box at work. This will be the first time Kim knows about it.

Love to the family  
Robert, Cheryl and Chris Waid

**cheryl waid** - March 14 at 12:22 PM

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“ Kim Branscum lit a candle in memory of Thomas "Tom" Russell Taylor



**Kim Branscum** - March 12 at 04:39 PM

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“ Tom always treated me like his little sister and was so fun to be around. I have always thought well of him. I was there the night he came home from the service, My dad drove all night to Chico air port to pick him up and he came back to mom & dads it was about 3 am I stayed up all night so i could see him. Heaven has one more angel.

Kim Noble Branscum

Kim Branscum - March 12 at 04:38 PM

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“ Jennifer and family, so sorry for your loss. Judy Cannon

Judith Cannon - March 11 at 10:33 PM

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“ Judith Cannon lit a candle in memory of Thomas "Tom" Russell Taylor



Judith Cannon - March 11 at 10:31 PM

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“ Garden Accent - When someone you love... was purchased for the family of Thomas "Tom" Russell Taylor.



March 11 at 04:23 PM

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“ Lisa Jill Ulrich Thompson lit a candle in memory of Thomas "Tom" Russell Taylor



Lisa Jill Ulrich Thompson - March 11 at 12:43 PM