



## Mr. James Fred Taylor Obituary

November 4, 1929 - December 16, 2011

James Fred Taylor, self-made businessman and a formidable fixture in Georgia politics since 1966, passed away early Friday morning at his home in Albany, Georgia. Services will be held on Tuesday, December 20, 2011, 12 Noon, at Porterfield Memorial United Methodist Church in Albany, with a private interment service to follow in Crown Hill Cemetery. The family will receive friends at Porterfield beginning at 11 AM till service hour.

Born November 4, 1929, in Alma, Georgia, he was the son of L. W. Taylor, Sr. and Ovieda Taylor, brother to Betty Morris, the late L. W. Taylor, Jr. and the late Windle A. Taylor. He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Tommie Taylor, three children and five grandchildren.

Fred Taylor was farm boy, high school basketball state champion, Korean War Air Force Sergeant, Student Body President at South Georgia College in Douglas, husband to Tommie and father to Mark, Marsha and Linda.

A fearless entrepreneur who started his first business with \$95 in Ocilla, GA, he was founder and owner of Georgia Mack Sales now Transpower, Inc. with locations in Albany, Valdosta and Douglas, 1967 Mack Truck National Dealer of the Year, and founder and owner of Interstate National Lease, Inc., Georgia's largest privately-owned truck leasing firm with 16 locations in Georgia and Alabama.

He was a former Albany Chamber of Commerce Vice President, twin engine rated pilot, former member City of Albany Aviation Commission, South Georgia Campaign Manager, Campaign Finance Co-Chair and the "Field Marshall" for George Busbee for Governor in 1974 and 1978. Chief of Staff to Governor George Busbee 1974 to 1982, and a leader in the passage of Constitutional Amendment Number 2 allowing George Busbee to be the first Georgia Governor to seek and win a second consecutive term in office.

He was founder and owner of Interstate Warehouse Services of Albany and Thomasville, an 18 year member of the Board of Directors for SunTrust Bank, long time Director for the Georgia Chamber of Commerce and the Georgia Motor Trucking Association, member of Governor Zell Millers' Commission on Effectiveness and Economy in Government, and recognized on four occasions by Georgia Trend Magazine as one of the 100 Most Influential Georgians.

Fred Taylor was the beloved and devoted Grandfather to Fletcher, Leslie, Taylor, Culin and Wells who knew him as their "FT." Their good health and educational success was always at the forefront of their Grandfather's mind.

As a conservationist, cattle man, and farmer, Fred Taylor was owner of Chokey Plantation in Lee County. GA. There he spent thousands of hours personally managing a wild quail habitat, a quality deer management program, protecting and honoring the Flint River and working tirelessly on an extensive beautification and planting program. FT loved Chokey and was passionate about the awesome natural beauty of South Georgia.

Fred Taylor will be greatly missed by family, friends and employees who have been so wonderful to him during his long illness. His family especially appreciates the physicians, nurses and staff of Phoebe Putney Hospital and his long-time care givers Henry Lemon and Cindy Baltimore.

In lieu of flowers, those wishing to honor his memory may donate to the Willson Hospice House, AFLAC Cancer Center at Children's Health Care of Atlanta, The Salvation Army of Albany or Sherwood Baptist Church where Mr. Taylor was a member since 1962.

You may sign the guestbook and share your thoughts with the family of Fred Taylor by visiting Kimbrell-Stern's website at [www.kimbrellstern.com](http://www.kimbrellstern.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC **20**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Porterfield United Methodist Church  
2200 Dawson Rd  
Albany, GA 31707

## Funeral Service

DEC **20**. 12:00 PM (ET)

Porterfield United Methodist Church  
2200 Dawson Rd  
Albany, GA 31707

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. James Fred Taylor Obituary*

May 22, 2023 at 01:29 AM



“ *Mr. James Fred Taylor Obituary*

December 24, 2022 at 02:54 AM



“ *FT was a person to be admired. He loved his wife, children ad grandchildren more than anything. I had the pleasure of working directly with him for several years. He was a humble man enjoying most breakfasts and lunches in his office. Nothing gave him more pleasure than to see his family happy and healthy. While he always set the bar for success, he did so with a kindness that was inspiring. My prayers are with you Tommie, Mark, Linda and Marsha.*

Michele Redmond - Albany, GA - former employee - January 07, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Tommy, my love thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. I have not seen you or Fred in years but to remind you of which cousin I am, I visited with Betty frequently when you and Fred lived across the street. You were kind enough to let me use your wedding veil when I got married. I always kept up with the family through Betty. Take care and know that you are loved by distant cousins. Fred would say "oh, thats Cousin Lexie's daughter."*

Mary Floyd Cacciatore - Vero Beach,, FL - cousin - December 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ My deepest condolences to Tommie, Linda, Mark, and Marsha. I'm so sorry for the loss of you Dad. He was a respected member of the community of all the surrounding areas of Dougherty County. I haven't seen any of you in years, but just know that you all are in my prayers.

*Lots of Love,  
Leanne Sherrill Taylor*

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**Leanne Sherrill Taylor - Montezuma, GA - Friend of the Family** - December 27, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ With deepest sympathy. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this time.

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**Brenda Burt Cameron - Dunwoody, GA - Friend** - December 22, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DN

“ Mark,

*I remember your Dad fondly. He prepared the way for decades of governors in Georgia from the Busbee administration. Please know we are remembering you in our prayers as you go through the following months. Having been where you are makes me know that the pain will fade into precious memories in the months and years ahead.*

*Would love to hear from you sometime!*

*David Tidmore  
President & CEO  
Chattooga County  
Chamber of Commerce*

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**David Tidmore - Cloudland, GA - none** - December 21, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ Mark,

*I know our family goes back many years! Please know that you and the rest of your family are in our thoughts and prayers.*

*Always,*

*The Bland Family*

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**Andy Bland - Albany, GA - Friends** - December 21, 2011 at 12:00 AM

EF

“ *Sincere Condolences to all the family  
Ernie and Nancy Broadwell*

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**Ernest and Nancy Broadwell 3rdCD - Peachtree City, GA - friend** - December 21, 2011 at 12:00 AM

GF

“ *I have always been grateful to Fred for his friendship and help as I started my career with Fruehauf Trailer in South Georgia.*

*He was one of the most positive thinking man I have been exposed to. He had come a long way from the Mack dealership in Ocilla to a well-run corporation for his family to continue.*

*He had a great drive to succeed and he achieved those goals many times..*

*My deepest sympathy to Tommie & family*

*GENE BENTON*

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**GENE BENTON - TUCKER, GA - BUSINESS FRIEND** - December 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DG

“ My heart is saddened for your loss..There wasnt a day that went by when I worked at Interstate that when Mr Taylor saw me he would say Good Morning Deb. Mark you and your Family are in my thoughts and Prayers.

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**Debbie Katz - Albany, GA** - December 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BE

“ Mr Taylor was good man, I know he will be missed. He always shown respect for his employees, the 10 yrs I was at Interstate he always spoke to me when he saw me.. My deepest sympathy for those he left behind

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**Brenda Patrick - former employee** - December 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ Heartfelt condolences and sympathy in the passing of Fred. I have fond memories of the interactions with Fred, Tommie, Mark, Marsha and Linda during my employment. Praying for comfort and peace for the family.

Sincerely,  
Joe Darley

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**Joe Darley - Camilla, GA - Former Employee** - December 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

HG

“ We were so very sorry to hear about Mr. Taylor's passing. You are all in our thoughts and prayers at this sad time.

Sincerely,  
Heather Land  
J. Smith Lanier & Co.

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**Heather Land - Albany, GA** - December 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ OUR SINCERE SYMPATHY

GOD BLESS YOU ALWAYS

JAMES GRIFFIN, JR. & FAMILY

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**JAMES GRIFFIN, JR - ALBANY, GA - FRIEND** - December 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SE

“ *I worked for Mr. Taylor for 12 years. He was quite a man, and was always so kind to me. I will always appreciate the knowledge I gained working for him. I was very sad to hear of his passing. I am praying for the family!*

*Sherry Cannon (Philyaw)*

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**Sherry Cannon - Leesburg, GA - former employee** - December 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ *I will miss Mr. Taylor coming to Doublegate Country Club for lunch, as he often did. We have lowered the flag to half-mast in his honor. He was a very nice man and will be remembered always by the staff and me.*

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**Michael Bunting - Albany, GA** - December 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DR

“ *We have your family in prayer. Know one thing GOD is too good to make a mistake.*

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**Douglas and Brenda Dean - Atlanta, GA - Former State Representative** - December 19, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your families during this time and always.

*Davey Womack and Family*

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**Davey Womack - Kathleen, GA - Friend** - December 19, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ To all, Tommie, Marsha, Linda, and Mark. Pearl and I are sadened by your loss and want to express our thoughts to all of you. Unfortunately, we will not be able to attend the visitation or service as I am going to Phoebe tomorrow morning (Tuesday) for surgery. Our prayers and thoughts will be with you.

*Ralph & Pearl Rosenberg*

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**Ralph Rosenberg - Albany - Friend of Family** - December 19, 2011 at 12:00 AM

HG

“ I was fortunate to have Fred as a friend for almost 30 years. He was a great businessman and conservationist. He will be missed.

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*Holly Dunn*

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**Holly Dunn - Albany, GA** - December 19, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RG

“ Dear Tommie,  
It is with deep regret that I am sending this to you. I can't tell you how much my prayers and heart go out to you at this time. May the comfort of God, family and friends help you in the days ahead. Please know that you and your family have my most sincere thoughts of love and sympathy.

*Rosemarie*

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**Rosemarie Peek - Albany, GA** - December 19, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ Fred was a person for whom I had great respect and admiration. He was a man of integrity and graciousness. It was always a pleasure to be in his company and to learn from him. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family.

Charles and Sara Graves  
Rome

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Charles Graves - Rome, GA - friend - December 19, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CG

“ You have our deepest symaptyh. Fred was a wonderful person and will be missed by all of us. He was a dear friend.

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carroll Harpole - albany, GA - December 19, 2011 at 12:00 AM

GF

“ Mr. Fred has been a friend to the entire McCranie family for years. My father George III and Uncles Shasta and Baker considered him a friend and had the utmost respect for Mr. Fred. He was a trusted adviser to our family and I am sure his friendship will be missed by Georgians all over the state. Although I am one of the youngest McCranies, I also considered Mr. Fred to be a friend and appreciate both his and Marks friendship. We will not be able to attend the services due to medical reasons for my father and uncle but we give our deepest condolences to the entire Taylor family. If we can ever be of any assistance please let us know. God Bless Mr. Fred and the Taylor family.

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George McCranie IV, Esq. - Willacoochee, GA - Family Friend - December 19, 2011 at 12:00 AM

NM

“ Thinking of you Mark and family. Your parents were so gracious to allow us in the Junior League years ago to use the pool house for a class function.  
Nancy Reimer

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**Nancy Reimer - Albany, GA - Classmate of Mark's** - December 17, 2011 at 12:00 AM

HF

“ Dear Tommie, Mark, Marsha and Linda

*It is with sadness that we read about Fred's passing. We know how much you will miss him, how much Albany will miss him. He lived a long and fruitful life and for that we can all be thankful. Helen remembers with fondness teaching all of Fred and Tommie's kids at Deerfield. We both remember the senior trip with Mark to the Bahamas. May God bless you in this time of sorrow and comfort you with happy memories of years with Fred. you are in our prayers.*

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**Helen and Paul McCorvey - Manchester, GA - friends** - December 17, 2011 at 12:00 AM