



# Thomas Brogden Taylor

MAR 31, 1948 - OCT 4, 2023



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# Thomas Brogden Taylor

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**W**e regret to announce the passing of Captain Thomas B. (T-Bone) Taylor U.S. Coast Guard (retired), 75 years old, of Fenwick Island, Delaware on October 4th, 2023. Tom passed away peacefully at home after a long battle with Merkel Cell Carcinoma, a rare and aggressive skin cancer. He was surrounded by his loving wife, Marilyn, his twin daughters, Laura Taylor and Lynn T Martin and her husband, Sean.

Tom served many admirable assignments throughout his Coast Guard career including Chief of Leadership School in Petaluma, CA.; Assistant Commandant of Cadets at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, CT. ; and lastly as Commanding Officer of Coast Guard Personnel at C.G. Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

One of his proudest accomplishments was heading a team in 1994 that promulgated the Coast Guard's Core Values "Honor, Respect and Devotion to Duty."

Tom instilled these values in every aspect of his life. Despite the demands of a busy career that took him across the country and sailing through many oceans, he was a devoted husband to Marilyn for 53 years, and a very loving and attentive father to his pride and joys, Laura and Lynn.

Tom was a leader and a family man. He enjoyed spending time with his siblings on various vacations and adventures. He organized the Annual Taylor Family Thanksgiving Pentathlon, he coordinated the Coast Guard Class of '70 Reunion for over 30 years, and he headed many Alumni Golf Tournaments. He enjoyed golfing, playing senior softball, watching football with friends, bowling and walking his grand dog, Murray, but mostly spending quality time with his family and friends. He will be missed dearly.

He was predeceased by his father, Simon B Taylor, mother, Jean Taylor Jones (husband, Jerry) as well as his father and mother-in-law, Larry and Lena Hodges.

He is survived by his brother, Danny Taylor (Jeanne) of Eunice, LA; Grace Litchliter (Fred) of Slidell, LA; Bobbie Brooke (Alton) of Moyock, NC; Mary (Missy) Allen of Oldsmar, FL; Joey T Morgan (Rodney Jackson) of Clearwater, FL; Jennie Taylor (Bryan Rice) of Virginia Beach, VA;



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brother-in-law Andrew J DeLaura (Carol) of Gales Ferry, CT; and many stepbrothers and stepsisters. He also leaves behind his dear nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews.

Tom asked for a private service with immediate family and close friends in attendance with a Mass at Our Lady of Guadalupe, and a Military burial at the Delaware Veterans Cemetery in Millsboro, DE.

A Celebration of life will be announced on a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Johns Hopkins Myositis Center @ <https://www.hopkinsmyositis.org> or to Tom's daughter Laura's Go Fund Me page <https://gofund.me/3a702067>.

Services will be private.

Please sign the virtual guestbook located on the tribute page.

FLORIST NOTE: PLEASE DELIVER ALL ARRANGEMENTS BY 3:00 PM ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2023, TO OUR OCEAN VIEW LOCATION.



## Tribute Wall

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EH

**Eddie Hamm** posted:

I first met Tom when I came to leadership school as an instructor in in 1983. He always seemed a little serious especially compared to school chief CDR Dick Ruhe:):). One of my first tasks was to help with his going away video, it was a blast. Hope the family still has it. The B-heads skit a takeoff of the Cone Heads. Later, when the leadership school moved to Petaluma, he was my he was head of the school and I saw him every day. He was a great leader and fun to be around. He had a great passion for making things better. After work and on weekends we played numerous rounds of golf together with Don Richards and John Shaw. So many good times together. Marilyn, I was so sadden to hear of his passing...too soon!!! Well done good and faithful servant. Prayers and blessings for you and the family. Eddie Hamm CWO4 (USCGRET)

January 23 at 3:44 PM



**Bobbie Brooke** posted:

I continue to struggle with missing my big brother so much. While I am so grateful he is no longer in pain, I miss his presence on this planet and think of him every single day. Love and miss you, Tom.

December 31 at 3:11 PM

AS

**Anthony Souza** posted:

As I have written at the time of his passing and everyone knows, T-Bone had the exceptional gift of being very competitive in everything he did while always protecting the good of everyone. A very special gift--including a keen sense of fairness--and all a part of a Faithful pathway to Heaven, for sure. Tony Souza, Classmate, Defensive Backfield Teammate, and Shipmate USCGC Chincoteague (WHEC-375).

November 20 at 12:16 PM

CD

**Chris Desmond** posted:

Dear Marilyn, please accept my deep condolence on the loss of Tom. He exemplified the best of '70...outstanding leader, sincere concern for others, unwavering commitment to responsibilities while volunteering for extra duties, and high energy and capacity for work. He was the guy everyone liked and respected. May God bless you and your family in this difficult time. Sending love, Chris Desmond

October 19 at 8:47 AM



## Tribute Wall

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**Anonymous** sent a Sacred Duty Spray to the Taylor family.

October 14 at 6:55 PM



**Tom Haas** posted:

Tom was a tremendous colleague while we were at USCGA carrying out our respective responsibilities...he was always committed to the mission and envisioning/creating the Leadership Development Center...and beyond that, he leaves a lasting legacy in our Service with his articulation of the CG Core Values... Bravo Zulu and God Bless his family.

October 14 at 4:18 AM



**Anonymous** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Thomas.

October 12 at 4:41 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Taylor family.

October 12 at 4:41 AM



**Leslie Larson** posted:

I am so sorry for this devastating loss for your family. I can't imagine the depth of your grief, but I am certain that you will get through this the way the Taylor family does everything - together. And Tom will be watching over all of you. Leslie

October 11 at 3:25 PM



**Anonymous** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Thomas.

October 11 at 12:36 PM





## Tribute Wall

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**Anonymous** sent a Yellow Sunflowers (Silk Cemetery Flowers) to the Taylor family.

October 11 at 12:36 PM



**Sharon C.** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Thomas.

October 11 at 10:35 AM



**John F Gossart, Jr.** posted:

When life's journey ends, the best that can be said about a man is that "He Was a Good Man". Marilyn, your husband T-Bone was a good man...Laura, Lynn, your dad was a good man. Rest in Peace my friend.john gossart

October 11 at 7:39 AM



**Steve Rottier** posted:

I first encountered T Bone as the outstanding leader on the Academy football team. It was foreshadowing of his leadership skills during his CG career. I also worked with him planning our 50th CG class reunion where his personality and talents shined. T Bone was the heart and soul of the Class of '70. He will be missed and there will never be another T Bone.Steve Rottier

October 11 at 5:26 AM



**Anonymous** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Thomas.

October 11 at 4:35 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Taylor family.

October 11 at 4:35 AM





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BB

**Bobbie Brooke** posted:

Tom was 5 years older than me and when we were growing up, he treated me like most brothers do their little sisters - He either ignored me or he...ignored me. He did sometimes give in and play games with his younger siblings, most notably Crazy Eights, which he usually won. It took a long time for us to realize that it was because he was discarding two cards instead of just one. This is probably the only time Tom ever cheated in his entire life. Things changed when we got older and realized that the five year gap in our ages wasn't as wide as we once thought it was. He loved telling everyone that he graduated from High School #33 in his class. Five years later, I was ecstatic to find out I was graduating #32 1/2 (I tied with a cheerleader). In turn, he would remind me that his graduating class was much larger than mine, so he was ahead of more people than I was. (Competitive, much?). The older we got, the closer we became. He and Marilyn, and Al and I went a lot of places together and always had a blast. We went to golf tournaments in Myrtle Beach, SC and Williamsburg VA, zip-lined together in Costa Rica, went on a family cruise, and more. One of my favorite memories is when we co-hosted our annual Thanksgiving tournament. (Basically, he was Pat Sajak and I was Vanna- he always had top-billing, of course) Marilyn, you have been part of our family for over 50 years. I can't thank you enough for being there for Tom, whether he was out to sea, rolling his eyes because you asked him to lower the thermostat or fighting cancer. You were truly soulmates. I'm so grateful that he and Marilyn brought two of my favorite human beings on the planet into the family. Laura and Lynn, he loved you so very much. Please know you can reach out to me, anytime. Words can never express how much I loved him and how very difficult it is to live without him. Memories keep popping up, which make me smile and cry at the same time. I will miss you forever, Tommy.

October 10 at 3:32 AM

SU

**Summer** posted:

Sending our condolences to the Taylor family! A memory I will always cherish is the family's getting together at Grandma's (Aunt Chris) house. Playing pool in the garage.. the pool tournaments I was too young to play in \*sigh\* I would still try though! All of the cousins playing outside and of course ALL the yummy food. Memories I will always cherish 🥰❤

October 10 at 3:16 PM

LI

**Lindoo** posted:

A life very well lived! My sincere condolences to the family for your loss. Sounds like you'll be sharing stories of your wonderful brother for years to come.

October 10 at 1:05 PM



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**Kimberly Brochu Cox** posted:

Marilyn, Laura , LynnYou girls had the best dad. My first memory was cousin Paula and I coming over to babysit ( I was probably 11 but Paula was 16. Your folks had to go to a formal military ball and we're dressed to the hilt. They really looked good and were running late , but you girls wanted a story from daddy no one else. And I have to say he told the best story that I asked for another one. Never have I seen a father love his girls so much and with such pride. About a week after that night he stopped by the diner to see my mom and gave her a letter. He took the time out of his schedule to write me a story. As he told my mom just because I asked. Your dad put others first and cared deeply. He will be missed but I will always remember his stories. Love and prayers to all of you

October 10 at 12:00 PM



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**Jennie Taylor** posted:

My earliest memory of Tom (or Tommy as we siblings called him) dates back to my first ever childhood memory. I was just a toddler and Tom would have been about 17. He sent me on a mission to ask our mom the time, and in my now well-known clumsy manner, I tripped and hit my head on the back stoop, requiring stitches. It was an incident that, looking back, reminds me of the care and concern he had for me even at such a young age. Throughout our lives, Tommy was the embodiment of the ideal big brother. He was someone we all admired and looked up to, a figure who set an example we could only strive to follow. So much of our family's history is interwoven with stories about him that sometimes it's hard to distinguish between my own experiences with him and the cherished memories of others as they are intermingled within our collective family narrative. After the loss of our mom, Tom stepped up to take the reins for our family traditions. He and his own family graciously hosted our Thanksgiving gatherings, creating an abundance of memories that will forever be etched in our hearts. Among those memories, the Taylor Family Tournament games hold a special place. Laughter and fierce competition filled those moments, making Thanksgiving a truly joyous occasion for all of us. In one of my last moments with Tom, a few short weeks before he died, he told me how much our Uncle Spence had been an influence in his life. He encouraged and helped him get into the Coast Guard Academy and was always there for him with sage advice. He shared that he was even with Uncle Spence when he died. I shared that one of the things I loved about Uncle Spence was his never-ending positive attitude. Whenever you asked how he was, he would say, "Everything is wonderful!" Two days after Tom's own death, someone I know who had no idea what had happened or even that my brother was ill, sent me a video of the song "Hallelujah" posted online on the date of April 13, which was Uncle Spence's birthday. I took that as a sign that Uncle Spence had welcomed Tom to the other side, and Hallelujah indeed—everything is wonderful!

October 10 at 3:32 AM

**BB** **Bobbie Brooke** October 19 at 7:01 PM



**JC** **Jennifer O'connor** October 10 at 9:42 PM

I am sorry from the bottom of my heart for your loss.

**TS** **Tracy Stewart** October 10 at 12:14 PM

Love, Butch and Tracy Stewart

**TS** **Tracy Stewart** October 10 at 12:13 PM

Well, I've already shared with Marilyn and the girls, but this bears repeating. We live in Georgia, at Reynolds, Lake Oconee. It is half way from Atlanta to Augusta. A great story, of the "Band of Fools". George, Goodie, T-Bone, and a neighbor of his ... we're going to the Masters. They came to our house, a closer distance to Augusta. My husband Butch, was taking the guys for a pontoon ride, and some "spirits". They all took the coolers, and went to the dock. I was hanging up laundry, and not paying attention to the guys. When I was



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done, I looked to the dock, and was surprised, the boat was still there. I walked towards the dock, and heard lots of laughter. When I got there, I looked at those fools floating from the dock. Butch could not get the pontoon to crank. He took a long rope, tied to the dock, and those fools were just floating in Lake Oconee. Three hours later... I'm sure the coolers were empty ... 😊



**Tracy Stewart** October 10 at 11:56 AM

What an amazing story to share, with everyone. Thank you for sharing. Tracy Stewart



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KM

**Kim Maccartney** posted:

Marilyn and Family, Helen and I were devastated when we received the email of Tom's passing. He was the embodiment of the class of '70's grit and determination to see every task to completion. His and your tireless work in making the reunions such a success exemplifies his true love for his classmates. I remember Tom mostly for his play on the football field where it was my job to try and keep offensive linemen from getting to Tom. He was not shy about letting me know when I was not doing my job to his expectations. His frequent kicks in my butt helped me be a better ball player. His kindness and sense of humor will be missed by all. We are so very sorry for your loss.

October 10 at 3:32 AM

JR

**James Koshar, Lt, Uscg(Ret.)** January 27 at 9:06 AM

I had the distinct privilege of serving with CAPT Taylor at LAMS in Petaluma in 1985. He was the consummate leader and example to all of us on how to live. One day at school, I 'caught' then LCDR Taylor making coffee in our coffee mess. I gently chastised him for doing this and not directing one of us junior members to make the coffee. He looked at me and said, 'Jim, it's 'Ok' for senior leaders to make coffee.' Just a generous man.

BB

**Bobbie Brooke** October 19 at 7:03 PM

Thank you so much.

BT

**Betsy Taylor** October 12 at 4:05 PM

Sadly, it's been too long since we've seen our Taylor cousins, but we have many wonderful memories of our times spent together at the aunt's and uncle's houses, playing games and having a huge amount of fun with our cousins. It makes great memories, and those will be cherished forever!! To all the Taylors: so very sorry to hear of Tommy's passing. Sending hugs, and thinking of you all -Betsy, Johnny, and Susie Taylor

W7

**Walt Sherwin, Cga'71** October 11 at 4:31 PM

Marilyn and Family, I was fortunate to have met and gone through CGA with Tom- He was one of the finest in '70 . I shared many competitive events with T-Bone as my mentor and what a great man he was -,sorry for your loss, but everyone who knew Tom was better for the experience .



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Thomas by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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