



## Michael R. Taylor

December 21, 1960 - May 10, 2020

Michael R. Taylor of Tinton Falls, NJ, passed away at home on May 10, 2020. He was 59.

Michael graduated from Ocean Township High School in 1979. He was a resident of Tinton Falls for over 35 years, where he owned and operated Taylor's Lawn Care & Landscaping.

Landscaping was his gift. Michael loved doing what he did. He started his business from the trunk of a Vega with one lawnmower. He loved playing baseball and basketball. He was a Baltimore Orioles fan since he was seven years old. He played football in high school. He had a great love for animals. Michael was hardworking, fun loving and someone you could always rely on. Michael was predeceased by his mother Annette. He is survived by his beloved wife Karen Taylor; his son Jared Taylor; his father Robert Taylor; his brother Steven Nielson; and his sisters Darlene Taylor and Jessica Green.

All services will be private. In lieu of flowers, donations in Michael's memory may be made to the Associated Humane Society of Tinton Falls at [www.ahscares.org](http://www.ahscares.org) For online condolences, full obituary, please visit his memorial page at [www.bongarzonefuneralhome.com](http://www.bongarzonefuneralhome.com)

# Cemetery Details

**Burial will be Private**

# Tribute Wall

KL

“ HEY MIKE ITS ME AGAIN KATHERINE IM SURE YOUR HAVING A PARTY UP THERE JUST WANTED YOU TO KNOW THAT I THINK OF YOU OFTEN AND I MISS YOU SO MUCH WISH YOU COULD STILL BE HERE WITH US. REST IN HEAVENLY PARADISE YOU EARNED ALOT OF PEOPLES HEARTS AND WE WILL NEVER FORGET YOU. UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN SOME DAY SAY HELLO TO MY MOM AND DAD AND YACKY FOR ME.

KATHERINE LEONARD - October 28, 2025 at 05:32 PM

KL

“ I JUST WANT TO SAY THAT I KNEW MIKE FOR MANY MANY YEARS HE WAS MARRIED TO MY SISTER DENISE AT THE TIME AND HIS SON JARED IS MY NEPHEW, I HELPED MIKE WHEN HE WAS IN THE HOSPITAL AFTER HIS LAST BACK SURGERY HE FOUGHT VERY HARD TO BOUNCE BACK BUT UNFORTUNATELY GOD HAD ANOTHER PLAN FOR HIM. MIKE I WILL NEVER FORGET YOU AND I WILL ALWAYS CARRY ON YOUR MEMORY FOR AS LONG AS I LIVE UNTIL THEN MAKE SURE THE GRASS AND THE LANDSCAPE ARE KEPT UP IN PARADISE AS YOU ALWAYS DID FOR OTHERS WHEN YOU WERE HERE WITH US.

KATHY LEONARD - November 21, 2024 at 02:32 PM

TT

“ Tracy Taylor ... Your cousin , thinking of you today ... and the beautiful words our cousin Kathy Yolman said . Rest In Peace ... love Tracy



Tracy Taylor - August 30, 2020 at 07:20 PM

SP

“ Michael was so devoted to his family and his company. He worked each day to make a difference in the lives of those he knew. My husband (now deceased) and Mike played baseball together years ago. I was lucky to hear all the great stories.

He also had a love of music, especially The Carpenters. May he be at peace.

He was a terrific friend.

Shelly Pennington

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**Shelly Pennington** - June 19, 2020 at 07:49 PM

KN

“ I've known Mike for many years he was a very hard worker and dedicated person to his customers I had some great times with him playing softball over the years and playing golf he will be missed Rest in Peace Mike

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**Kevin Netterman** - June 12, 2020 at 12:26 PM



He was the Best I work for him. I was from the hood and he gave me a chance he was the best. A lot of landscapers was jealous of him

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**Michael Howell** - April 25, 2023 at 09:11 PM

KC

“ I want to send my condolences to all those who shared their life with Michael Taylor. What a great man he was!

*My name is Kathy Yolman and I was his cousin.*

*Although, I hadn't seen Michael in many years I thought about him often.*

*My mother - Lynn Yolman (RIP Mom) was able to pull strings back in the day to get him a much needed transplant as she adored Michael tremendously.*

*I remember the days hanging out with him and Denise (who was just AWESOME). Denise if you are on this strand - I would love to connect again. My email address is: kly789@outlook.com.*

*Michael - we will miss you dearly and I know you are up in heaven dancing with my mom, Nan and Pop Taylor too.*

*You will be missed by all.*

*I LOVE YOU MICHAEL!*

*Love, Kisses and Hugs,*

*Kathy Yolman*

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**Kathy Yolman - His Cousin** - May 29, 2020 at 06:07 PM

JO

*The only one who pulled strings to get Mike his transplant was his devoted wife of 27 years  
Karen M. Taylor.*

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**JoAnn** - June 06, 2020 at 06:40 PM

PH

*May he finally be at rest and the trials and tribulations of his life drift away during this very difficult and sad time. You were a dear friend Mike and I hope you have found the happiness you fought for each and every minute of your life. RIP dear friend.*

**Perry Hamburg** - June 07, 2020 at 09:30 PM

TN

*“ My condolences to The entire Taylor family. So shocked and saddened by your loss. I don't know many people who worked as hard as Mike did. I pray for his soul to be at peace. Love Teresa (Terry )Neilson*

**Teresa Neilson** - May 22, 2020 at 10:11 PM

CR

*“ Karen and Jared, We were shocked and saddened to hear of Mike's passing. Our deepest condolences and prayers to you and your family.*

*Cathy & Betty Reyes, Tinton Falls*

**Cathy Reyes** - May 19, 2020 at 06:05 PM



JP

*“ Karen and Jared,*

*We were so sorry to hear about Mike's passing. Our heartfelt sympathies to you and your family. We will keep you all in our prayers.*

*Jim and JoAnne Pruim*

**Jim Pruim** - May 19, 2020 at 03:08 PM

DG

“ My husband and I first met Tony when we moved to Tinton Falls 32yrs ago. we purchased our first house and just married. We lived across the street from tony. And became friends, we where all about the same age. we did what normal young couples do, dinner, backyard barbecues etc..( and probably had no clue what we where doing !) there where no children at that time. He was a funny, happy man and my husband and Tony became friends. Along with our old dog Skippy, a beautiful golden retriever which they sat in the garage with. (open doors of course , and drank beer.) He always made me laugh too he very was kind. And I always remembered the newly landscaping gear parked in front of his house.( Every tool imagined !) I thought one day that guy will have a business- their landscape always looked refined and excellent ! Since then we moved to Atlanta, G.A and back to colts Neck N.J. 3 kids later. But, whenever I am in the Tinton Falls area, and pass that community, you have to SMILE ! God Bless you Tony ... and hope your SMILING!

*Our hearts and thoughts are with you during this difficult time of grieving.*

*Steven and Debra Grzelak*

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**Debra & Steven Grzelak** - May 19, 2020 at 10:34 AM

DM

*Debbie, this is Denise, his ex wife. Just wanna clarify his name is Mike not Tony.*

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**Denise Marks** - May 19, 2020 at 04:28 PM

MM

“ Dear Karen and Jared, I am so sorry for your loss. Melanie Moore

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**melanie moore** - May 18, 2020 at 10:11 PM

WJ

“ Mike, it's nice knowing you all these years; I'll miss your stops at the house and the talks we had. God Bless You.

-Mr. Bill Haas, Oakhurst, NJ

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**WILLIAM C HAAS JR** - May 17, 2020 at 11:52 AM

JP

“ My Deepest Condolences to you and your family Karen, I was shocked and saddened to know this rock solid guy has left us. Mike was truly a quality person who always was a pleasure to speak with. I have tremendous respect for him and the business he built. He was a very hard working man who now deserves to rest in peace !

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**Jim Paslowski** - May 16, 2020 at 09:25 AM

GA

“ Very sad to hear of mikes passing , played football with him in high school, seen him working hard through the years, lots of positive energy.great example of a man.



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**Glenn Applegate** - May 16, 2020 at 03:30 AM

IJ

“ We were so sorry to read of Michael's passing. The office staff at Dr. Lo Buono's will always remember him for Monday evening appointments. He was such a wonderful man which we enjoyed at the end of our busy day with his wit. The Office Staff at Dr. LoBuono

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**Irene Joyce** - May 15, 2020 at 01:15 PM

RP

“ Karen,  
losing your soulmate is one of the hardest things that you can go through. Mike and I are the same age. when a read of his passing i felt the sadness in my heart and the pain of loss. there is nothing that i can say but remember the good times. i know you have a strong family , use them to lean on and support you.

Ronald Palmieri - May 14, 2020 at 09:39 PM

FF

“ Karen so sorry for your loss

The Ferros  
5 cornell

Frank Ferro - May 14, 2020 at 02:57 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Michael R. Taylor.



May 14, 2020 at 09:06 AM

MG

“ My prayers and deepest condolences to Karen and Jared. Mike was a one-of-a-kind friend of mine for over 30 years. He was tenacious in character, and a competitor in everything he put his mind to in life; especially debating politics and sports. It was always “Mike Taylor’s way” no in between. Mike had a heart of gold and would help anyone, anytime. A true rare breed of a man, husband and father. I will sorely miss Mike. RIP buddy.

Matt Grum - May 14, 2020 at 07:48 AM

BW

“ *My condolences to Jared and his family for their loss. RIP mike.*



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**Brian Wagnon** - May 14, 2020 at 12:15 AM

TH

“ *Timothy Hendricksen lit a candle in memory of Michael R. Taylor*



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**Timothy Hendricksen** - May 14, 2020 at 12:11 AM

TH

*Hardest working guy I ever met. One of the funniest as well, a true character and a good man. Worked for Mike for years and it was always interesting. Memories live on....My condolences to Karen, Jared and family.*

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**Timothy Hendricksen** - May 14, 2020 at 12:15 AM

AN

“ Paul and I are so sad to learn of Mike's passing but so thankful we can rejoice in knowing he is with Jesus. Mike was always kind, loving and caring to us and our needs. He never forgot to ask how we were doing with any concern we may have had. He was very willing to go out of his way for anyone in need and to remember to pray for the brethren. Mike was so happy that he read through the bible with a yearly bible plan, and shared his love of Jesus whenever he could. Our condolences to Karen and Jared. (We met you through the window on Easter Sunday, Mike was resting on the deck.) We can keep the smiling memory of Mike in our hearts, with this great picture of him! Love, Paul and Annie

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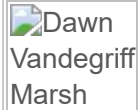
Anne - May 13, 2020 at 03:10 PM

TC

“ I send my deepest condolences to Karen, Jared, and the rest of Mike's family. I've been both a customer and friend for about 40 years. One of the hardest working, toughest individuals I've ever known, who built and maintained a very successful high quality business from scratch. But he was much more than a successful businessman. An unquestionably honest man with a heart of gold who was always there to help a friend, myself included, with whatever was needed. A man full of kindness, warmth, humor, and intellectual curiosity. I always enjoyed long conversations with Mike that would touch on topics as diverse as business, investing, faith, love, kids, sports, politics, and health. Always interesting, never boring. An authentically unique individual, gone far too soon, who will be sorely missed and always remembered. Rest in peace, my friend.

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Tom Carroll - May 13, 2020 at 09:51 AM



“ *Our prayers are with you Karen and Jared. I was so sad to hear of Mike's passing. I worshiped with Mike at Grace Bible and I looked forward to his big smile and how he always said hello to me and was so sincere to know how I was doing. He was a great guy that loved the Lord and loved people. He will be missed.*

*Dawn Marsh*

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**Dawn Vandegriff Marsh** - May 13, 2020 at 09:40 AM

A square profile picture with the letters 'GP' in white on a brown background.

“ *RIP Mike, I know you are in a better place, but you will be missed. I met Mike through Grace Bible Church, and got to know him through our small group and our friendship grew over the years. He was a unique character who was transparent and told it like it was. We would always break each others chops but every Sunday or at small group he would always ask about my family and no matter the special occasion Mike always gave a thoughtful gift to me and my wife. I felt a strong bond to Mike as a Brother in Christ and saw his love and growth in and through Christ. Jean and I will miss Mike. We offer prayers of comfort for his Family.*

*Love*  
*Gary & Jean Pollack*

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**Gary Pollack** - May 13, 2020 at 09:01 AM

BD

“Mike became a friend of ours through our small group Bible study at Grace Bible Church. He was exceptionally kind to me, and always expressed concern for the medical needs of our granddaughter. He prayed for her health at each of our meetings, and his prayers brought much comfort to my heart.

Mike was thoughtful and generous - each spring he would bless the members of our group with an assortment of lovely flowering plants. And then at Christmas he gave us gifts that honored the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Mike will be dearly missed as a friend and brother in Christ.

We are praying for comfort for Karen and Jared, and for all family members and friends who are grieving Mike's passing.

“Jesus wept.” John 11:35

“I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live.”

John 11:25

Billy and Patty Doolittle

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**Billy and Patty Doolittle** - May 13, 2020 at 08:57 AM

KL

“Mike will always remain in my heart forever he was a great brother in law as well as a family friend words cannot explain the emptiness I feel within when you woke up from your surgery I was there to help you through your recovery I only wish I could of done more and you would still be here with us I guess god had another plan for you I promise to carry on your name and the memories we shared over the years until we meet again rest on i paradise and watch over us always I love and miss you

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**katherine leonard** - May 12, 2020 at 10:00 PM

EB

“ I am so sorry to learn of Mike's passing. My heartfelt sympathies to Jared, Karen and your family. I knew Mike from Grace Bible Church where he worshipped faithfully for many years. Mike often sat in the same general area as I did and always had a friendly word to share. He loved Jesus and was happy to share his faith. Our prayers are with his family. Eileen and Daemen Den Bleyker

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**Eileen Den Bleyker** - May 12, 2020 at 08:33 PM

JL

“ Mike was in our small group bible study and it is never going to be the same without him! He kept us on our toes with questions and concerns. He demonstrated a genuine care and kindness to many of us in numerous ways; he was always willing to help when a need would arise. Mike's lighthearted disposition would often make us laugh; sometimes he could bring us to tears too - he was quite the character. He was always interested in others well-being and we knew he would pray for us. Mike is going to be greatly missed. To Karen and Jared we send our condolences and we will continue to keep you in our prayers. Domenick and JoAnne Lotorto

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**JoAnne Lotorto** - May 12, 2020 at 08:25 PM

BO

“ Boofie lit a candle in memory of Michael R. Taylor



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**Boofie** - May 12, 2020 at 08:08 PM

BO

*I'm so saddened by the passing of Mike. I've known Mike for many many years. A hard working man that never quit. I am so happy we all got back in touch with each other again. Mike I will miss you dearly. Rest assure that I and my family will be there to watch over Jared. Rest easy my Angel. Gone but you will never be forgotten.*

Boofie - May 12, 2020 at 08:13 PM

MF

*May you rest in peace Mike. My thoughts and prayers go out to your family and loved ones. I will always remember the fun times we had on Williamsburg Dr. With Denise and the kids. God bless.*

Myra Fiore - May 12, 2020 at 09:37 PM

HS

“ *Our heartfelt sympathy, thoughts and prayers go out to the Taylor family. Mike and I grew up together on the same street in Neptune City and have known each other since Kindergarten. I will forever remember the many days we spent playing together at each other's houses and riding bikes. Mike especially loved swimming in our pool. We lost touch over the years, but reconnected in Tinton Falls. Mike was still the same funny, talkative, compassionate, caring guy I knew from grade school. It was evident Mike adored his son Jared. There was never a conversation I had where Mike didn't say how proud he was of Jared and how much he loved him. I last saw Mike about 10 days ago. Even though he wore a back brace, had difficulty walking, and talked about his need for hip surgery, he still wore a smile on his face and had a sense of humor. His work ethic was like no other. His contagious laugh, infectious smile, sometimes opinionated political views, but mostly his genuine and kind ways will be missed the most. RIP my childhood friend. I will miss you very much but know you are watching over your family and friends. Holly Steinberger and family, James, Kevin, Eric and Mark.*

Holly Steinberger - May 12, 2020 at 07:44 PM

VW

“ To Mike s wife and Family , you have my wife Joanne s and mine prayers and condolences on your loss. Mike was a customer of mine when I worked at J Deere Landscaping and although we had our differences at times, I considered Mike a friend. God bless you all in your time of grief, he will be missed. Victor Wnorowski

Victor Wnooski - May 12, 2020 at 07:04 PM

JH

“ Rest in peace dear brother-in-law. You will be missed.

JoAnn Honeycutt - May 12, 2020 at 02:09 PM

LP

Rest on peace Michael. You will be greatly missed.

Linda Paul - May 12, 2020 at 04:36 PM

AB

“ Mike was a great encouragement to me. We would talk at church and would ask about my cancer and let me know he was praying for me. He never wanted to talk about his own physical issues.

Allen Beltle - May 12, 2020 at 01:49 PM

DR

“ Please accept our deepest sympathies on Mike's passing, it was always a pleasure to listen to his insights and share opinions with him during our neighborhood encounters. You'll be in our prayers.  
The Reperts



David Repert - May 12, 2020 at 01:40 PM

DD

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with Karen and the Taylor family at this difficult time of grief. May our Heavenly Father hold Michael in His arms and provide him with eternal peace, we pray.  
With our deepest condolences from the Dunigan family.

Diane Dunigan - May 12, 2020 at 10:51 AM

TK

We are so very saddened to hear of Mike's passing. He was so extremely kind, thoughtful, and caring. He blessed us so much with his prayers and encouraging words when I was going through cancer. He will be dearly missed. Our prayers and deepest condolences to his wife and family. You are in our prayers. Ernie & Tia Kerwin

tia kerwin - May 12, 2020 at 11:26 AM



“ Our Deepest Sympathies & Condolences to the Taylor Family. Words cannot express the feelings.. Our times with Mike made us laugh. His words came straight from his heart. Always willing to lend a hand at a moments notice and so thoughtful of others. May God accept Mike into His Loving Arms & give his family strength. Rest in Peace.....  
Thoughts & Prayers,  
The Starnes Family



Bonnie Smagacz-Starnes - May 12, 2020 at 08:42 AM

CH

“ I knew Mike since I was around 7 years old, so over 35 years. We were one of the first accounts he had and he was still our landscaper to this day. I had many great talks with Mike over the years. He always made me laugh. He was a loyal and honest man who always wanted to help. My condolences to his wife, son and family. Rest in peace, Mike.

*Chris Knight*

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**Chris** - May 11, 2020 at 10:53 PM

RD

“ It is with a heavy heart that I am writing this. I have known Mike from the beginning of his professional career . We have been friends throughout our years of being in business . To Karen I am truly sorry to hear this . My heart goes out to the family . May you Rest In Peace .

*Sincerely,  
Ralph DeVito*

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**Ralph DeVito** - May 11, 2020 at 08:33 PM

BH

“ Bongarzone Funeral Home lit a candle in memory of Michael R. Taylor



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**Bongarzone Funeral Home** - May 11, 2020 at 02:16 PM