

Obituary for RADM Eugene A. Taylor

Eugene A. (Gene) Taylor, age 93, of Stuart, Florida passed away of natural causes on December 19, 2019, at Emerald Health Care Center, Port St. Lucie, Florida.

RADM Taylor was born on September 15, 1926, in Fitchburg, Massachusetts, son of Alfred and Medora Taylor. He married Esther Ward on Feb. 9, 1951, in Crisfield, MD. They were married for 50 years. They had two children Eugene and Leslie, both still living.

He attended public schools in Fitchburg, Lunenburg, and graduated from Leominster High School, Massachusetts in 1944, graduated from the University of Massachusetts in 1950 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering, and received a Master's Degree in Geodetic Science from The Ohio State University in 1968. His thesis on Satellite Geodesy was presented to the University of Moscow in 1969.

RADM Taylor began his service career in the U.S. Navy during World War II and was discharged in 1946. In 1950, he received a commission from the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey (USC&GS), later renamed the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and retired in 1980 with the rank of Rear Admiral. He had a widely varying career most notably as a LCDR in 1962 he was Chief of the Coast and Geodetic Survey Satellite Triangulation Program. The world's first use of satellites ANNA and ECHO 1 to determine geodetic accuracy on a global scale. This effort provided stimulus ultimately for developing the NAVSTAR (GPS) satellite system. He was the Director of the Pacific Marine Center in Seattle, WA, where he oversaw the operation, maintenance and scheduling of 13 ships. Lastly, RADM Taylor was the Associate Director of the National Ocean Survey (now National Ocean Service) Office of Fleet Operations in Rockville, MD. He was awarded the Department of Commerce Gold Medal for his work in ship construction.

From 1981-1988, he served as a Professor of Civil Engineering teaching at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia. Here he passed on his knowledge of Geodesy and Astronomy.

He was a member of the American Legion Post 0318 of Port St. Lucie, Florida, the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), the Reserve Officers Association, and the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey Society.

He leaves his son, Eugene A. Taylor, Jr. of San Francisco, California, and his daughter, Leslie K. Dean of Salisbury, Maryland, grandchildren, Michael, Taylor, Matthew, and Rachel Medora, and great-grandchildren, Eloise and Liam.

Services will be held on January 29, 2020, at 11 AM at the Bosk Funeral Home, 85 Blossom Street, Fitchburg, Massachusetts, followed by his burial at Forest Hills Cemetery in Fitchburg in his family plot.

In place of flowers, donations in Gene's memory may be made to the National ACO Scholarships, Inc., P.O. Box 13083, Silver Spring, Maryland, 20911.