



Todd Richard Taylor

FEB 14, 1954 - APR 4, 2024



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Todd Richard Taylor

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Todd Richard Taylor was born to Jack and Gerri Taylor on February 14, 1954, in Coronado, California, where his father was stationed while serving in the Navy. Before Todd came to Tampa, where he resided most of his adult life, he lived with his family in Kearney, Nebraska (hometown of his parents), Iowa City, Iowa where he became an early fan of the University of Iowa Hawkeyes, then Des Moines, Iowa, where he was joined by his sister, Tamara Lynn. The family moved to Marshalltown, Iowa and then finally settled in Winona, Minnesota where his mother, Gerri, still resides. He grew up in Winona and played numerous sports including swimming, pole vaulting, baseball, basketball, and racquetball.

Todd had a strong work ethic from the start. Growing up, he worked as a newspaper delivery boy and a caddy at the Winona Country Club. He got up very early every morning to deliver the paper and then was off to swim practice before school. He graduated high school in 1972 and earned a scholarship to swim at the University of South Florida. He left Winona in his green MGA with his sights set on palm trees and sunshine. Being a collegiate athlete ended up being more demanding than he wanted, so he gave up his scholarship and moved to California and then back to Minnesota. A few years later, he came back to Tampa to finish his business degree at USF, where he paid his own way and worked various jobs. After graduation, Todd became an insurance agent for Prudential. A few years later, he entered the real estate world where his career took off. He developed many residential communities around the Tampa Bay area.

Todd married Melissa Haggard on October 22, 1988. In March of 1994, they welcomed their first and only child, Alexandra "Nikki" Taylor. Due to his occupational success, he was able to retire early and was very involved in his daughter's life. She attended Cambridge Christian School where she participated in many extracurriculars. Todd attended every game, event, and award ceremony. He even donated to the school to provide a practice football facility on campus called the Todd Taylor Family Field. Todd not only donated money to various causes including but not limited to the Winona YMCA, Bay Hope Church, the University of South Florida but he also



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donated his time to regularly volunteering with Meals on Wheels and reading to children at a local elementary school. He was an active member of Bay Hope Church in which his donations helped fund building wells in Africa.

Todd enjoyed playing golf and tennis at Avila Golf and Country Club, where he resided the last 30 years. Todd enjoyed spending his summers back home in Winona where he would golf with high school friends and spend time with his family. In Winona, he was also able to bond with his great nephew, Gavin, and established a scholarship fund for him to pursue higher education. His favorite place to visit was Atlantis in the Bahamas. He loved swimming in the clear, blue water and enjoying conch salad with a Kalik. Although, his favorite team was his alma mater, where he was a football and basketball season ticket holder for decades, he enjoyed visiting Nikki at the University of Florida where he learned to love to cheer on the Gators. He was very supportive of Nikki's aspirations to become a physician assistant and enjoyed weekly lunches with her during her graduate schooling at South University in Tampa. He welcomed Nikki's husband, Travis Collins, into the family in November 2020, where Todd hosted 200 people at his lovely home for their wedding. His final and arguably greatest achievement was welcoming his first grandchild into the world on December 30, 2023.

Todd is survived by his mother, Gerri, his sister, Tammy, his daughter, Nikki, and his granddaughter, Harper Kate. He left a lasting impact in Avila and around Tampa Bay. His friends and family will miss him dearly. In memory of Todd, please donate to one of the causes listed above in lieu of flowers. His funeral service will be held in Tampa, FL and a celebration of life will be held at a later date in Winona, MN.



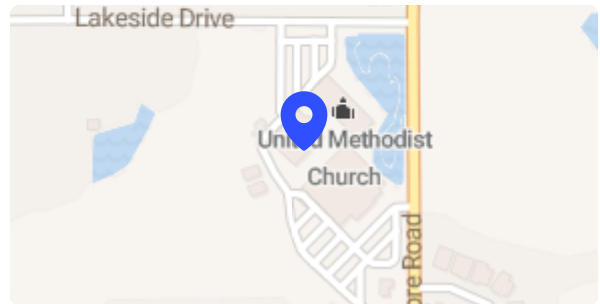
Events

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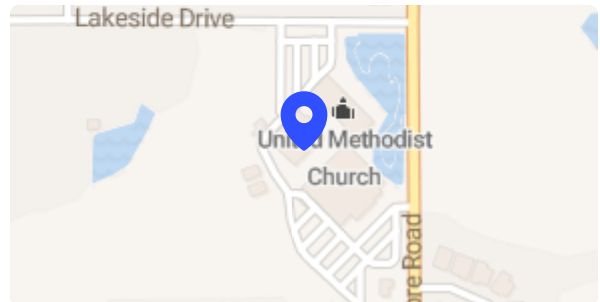
Visitation

- Friday**, April 12, 2024
- 3:30 PM - 4:00 PM ET
- Bayhope Church**
17030 Lakeshore Road, Lutz FL 33558



Funeral Mass

- Friday**, April 12, 2024
- 4:00 PM ET
- Bayhope Church**
17030 Lakeshore Road, Lutz FL 33558



Reception

- Friday**, April 12, 2024
- 6:00 PM ET
- Avila Golf & Country Club**
943 Guisando De Avila, Tampa FL 33613-1060





Tribute Wall

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Michelle Fitz-Randolph posted:

We met Todd on December 24, 1997 when he came to our house as Santa. The door bell rang and when I opened it there was Santa! Todd said that he had heard that a new family had just moved into Avila and he wanted to make sure he had the right house since he had presents to deliver. Our children were so excited to see Santa and I shared in their excitement. After he left I caught up with Santa in the driveway and I asked his name..he proudly said "I am Todd Taylor." It was truly the most unforgettable Christmas Eve. Every Christmas, I always remember this story and I will always remember you Todd. Sending love and prayers to Nikki and your family.

May 8 at 9:11 AM



Jerry Sutton posted:

Todd, my good friend for 25 years and so many great times on the tennis courts. So many wins together and some losses but always a great time. And after my knee surgery, you were the first to say I will play with Jerry as others seemed hesitant. And knowing what you were going through medically was above and beyond. WHAT A GUY!! ENJOY YOUR NEXT JOURNEY. JERRY SUTTON.

April 21 at 9:22 AM



Marilyn, Amanda And Donnie sent a Crystal Cross Bouquet to the Taylor family.



April 12 at 9:42 AM



Marilyn, Amanda And Donnie planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Todd.



April 12 at 9:42 AM



The Sierra Family And Avila sent a Sentiments of Serenity Spray to the Taylor family.



April 11 at 2:01 PM



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Lisa Sierra posted:

I first met Todd when my Son as a middle schooler enrolled at Cambridge Christian where Nikki also attended. My husband Hi was previously acquainted with Todd from Avila. Todd was not only Nikki's biggest supporter through her various sports but ALL of the athletes at Cambridge. Todd rarely missed a football or basketball game and became a mentor to my son and his fellow athletes. Encouraging them not only in athletics but also to be good young men & women of Faith. We formed a deeper relationship with Todd often meeting up after games. Beyond Cambridge he and Hi's bromance continued over many lunches and long phone calls a/k/a therapy sessions. Todd definitely cultivated and valued his friendships with many. His kind heart, sense of humor and loyalty will be greatly missed. Heaven gained a good one 😊 Lisa & Hi Sierra

April 11 at 10:19 AM



John And Cathy Greer sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Taylor family.



April 11 at 9:12 AM



John And Cathy Greer planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Todd.



April 11 at 9:12 AM



Anonymous sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Taylor family.



April 11 at 7:46 AM



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PK

Pamela Klein posted:

We always laugh when we think about the first time we met Todd, Melissa and Nikki, almost 30 years ago in the driveway of our new home in Avila. Todd pulled up in his golf cart and got out leaving the keys in the ignition and said "it would be ok, the kids couldn't do anything". Well, our two-year old twin boys climbed into the cart and took off, one driving and one sitting on the gas pedal. They hit me from behind and drove through the front yard and down the road. Todd and my husband took off running and caught them before running into the pond at the end of the road. So many memories. You will be missed Todd but not forgotten. Until we see you again.

April 10 at 6:55 PM

LS

Laurie Becker, Kevin And Jennifer Suber sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Taylor family.



April 10 at 6:55 PM

LS

Laurie Becker, Kevin And Jennifer Suber planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Todd.



April 10 at 6:55 PM

KM

Kevin, Pam, Robert, Richard & Morgan sent a Country Basket Blooms to the Taylor family.



April 10 at 6:17 PM

KM

Kevin, Pam, Robert, Richard & Morgan planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Todd.



April 10 at 6:17 PM



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PA

Patti, Lauren, Tommy, And Adam sent a Heavenly Heights Bouquet to the Taylor family.

April 9 at 11:48 AM



PA

Patti, Lauren, Tommy, And Adam planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Todd.

April 9 at 11:48 AM



JL

Julie Luke posted:

Rest In Peace Todd. You were one of the sons our Dad never had. Thoughts and Prayers For your family.

April 9 at 8:04 AM

JC

John Connelly posted:

Todd you will be missed by all, but never to be forgotten. As a teammate on the USF swim team or opponent in a golf game you put 100% into competing at your best level. Your expectations for yourself set a high bar and you lived your life clearing that bar many times. I will miss my phone calls, lunches at the Columbia and your infectious laugh. I'm so happy you walked into my life, and remained a part of it for over 45 years.

April 9 at 3:04 AM

ES

Elizabeth S. planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Todd.

April 8 at 3:48 PM





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Elizabeth Snyder posted:

Todd was a refreshing sight whenever I saw him; usually in the gym or on the tennis courts. No matter his situation, he was always kind, loving and generous with his words, and a man of faith. What I truly loved and respected about Todd was his authenticity. He spoke the truth about his life, and how he was, and how he felt... about all things. There was no superficiality about him. He was always interested in me and my life, and my well-being. He was easy to talk to and always made me feel special. He will be missed by so many. I think we all loved him in our own ways. Todd, we will miss you. OX

April 8 at 3:44 PM



Anonymous sent a Divine Peace Bouquet to the Taylor family.



April 8 at 8:20 AM



Jj & Shari Zwirn planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Todd.



April 8 at 8:20 AM



Ron Weisser posted:

Funny, smart, tough, aggressive, kind, generous. So many more wonderful words can be used to describe Todd. Definitely one of a kind. A "Very special kind". Ron Weisser

April 8 at 7:47 AM



Jim Shimberg posted:

Todd was so generous to me as both a client and a friend. I will always cherish our win at the BMW Golf Open at Avila in March 2023 and then our trip to the BMW Nationals at Olympia Fields outside Chicago in August 2023. Todd and I played again just a few weeks ago (right after he had had an infusion treatment). We didn't win but we did have a great time and I can't believe that will be the last time I would see him. Rest in peace my friend. You were a good man!

April 8 at 7:11 AM



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DA

Dan Austin posted:

I had the pleasure of knowing Todd and the biggest thing I came to know about Todd is he had a great giving heart and that is something no one can deny. Avila & the world will not be the same without you.

April 7 at 12:28 PM

RO

Ronald Oxtal April 7 at 1:35 PM

RIP Todd, you are going home! Todd was a True Believer in God and shared his faith and struggles. He always told me he was a work in progress and not many folks admit that to themselves, let alone to others. There was no guessing where you stood with Todd, he was a straight shooter. Condolences to Nikki and the rest of the family. God Bless you during this difficult time. I am thankful I could call Todd a friend. Ron Oxtal

RS

Robyn Snd Steve Story posted:

Todd we are sitting here tonight and still can't believe you are gone. You fought a great fight and now it's your time to be in peace. You should have a couple great gin buddies waiting for you on your next journey. You will always be with us in our hearts. We will miss your smile and your big heart. Until we meet again...with much love Robyn and Steve

April 6 at 5:34 PM

LB

Laurie Becker April 7 at 8:28 AM

It was an honor to be able to spend time with Todd in his final days, and witness the community of friends he has created in Tampa. Todd was a kind, generous, and caring man, and he surrounded himself with those people. Rest in heaven my dear friend, and give Bill a big hug from me. Loved and never forgotten ❤️

RS

Robyn Snd Steve Story April 7 at 5:43 AM

Travis we are always here for you and your family. We are sending you much love, prayers and positive energy

TC

Travis Collins April 6 at 7:26 PM

Thank you guys for being there for Todd when we couldn't be and thank you for all your support and for everything you do for us



Memories only last if you share them

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



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