



John Benjamin Taylor III

March 29, 1933 - May 2, 2025

John Benjamin Taylor III a former Willcox resident passed away in Tucson Friday morning, May 2, 2025, at the age of 92. John was the third of four children born to John Benjamin Taylor Jr and Catherine Delores Taylor and had one brother, Joseph and two sisters, Virginia & Maurine.

John attended St. Patrick's Catholic School and Bisbee High School where he graduated in 1952. In August 1952, John joined the Air Force and served at Thule AFB in Greenland until being honorably discharged in August 1956. After leaving the USAF, John worked for Phelps Dodge (now Freeport-McMoRan) in several capacities ... ultimately driving a copper ore truck in the Lavender Pit.

In August 1957, John married Minnie Grace Stoner and had two sons, John Wayne Taylor in May 1958 and Bruce Alan Taylor in October 1959. They divorced in February 1965 and John married Peggy Darlene Ellis in July 1966 and he and Peggy raised his sons.

In 1975, John and his family moved to Morenci, Arizona as he continued working for Phelps Dodge as a ball mill operator until his retirement in 1986 whereupon they moved to Peggy's hometown of Willcox.

John served the Willcox community in several positions ... most notably as a bus driver for Catholic Community Services and as a jailer for Cochise County Sheriff's Department.

John was a member of the American Legion and serviced as Color Guard Commander and Post Commander in Bisbee and was a member of the

American Legion in Pearce, Arizona at his death. John was also a member of the Elks Lodge in Willcox.

John had many friends and family in Willcox and was a fixture around town ... at the Safeway, the Texaco station, the Burger King and the KOA Restaurant. Due to a fall in May 2021, John moved to an assisted living facility in Tucson near his son, Bruce where he lived out his remain years. John was preceded in death by his parents, sister Virginia, wife Peggy, brother Joseph and son John. He is survived by his sister Maurine in Ohio and his son Bruce in Tucson.

Military Graveside Service will be held 10:00 am on Friday, May 9, 2025, at the Cochise Cemetery.

A celebration of life will be held on Saturday, May 31, 2025, from 11:00 am until 2:00 pm at the Willcox Elks Lodge.

Cemetery Details

Cochise Cemetery

Highway 191
Cochise, AZ 85606

Previous Events

Military Graveside Service

MAY **9**. 10:00 AM (MT)

Cochise Cemetery
Highway 191
Cochise, AZ 85606

Celebration of Life

MAY **31**. 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM (MT)

Willcox Elks Lodge 2131
247 E. Stewart St.
Willcox, AZ 85643

Tribute Wall



“ John was a good friend. He talked me into joining the Legion. John was also a firefighter for Willcox Rural Fire Department.

Lisa Marie Humphries - May 12, 2025 at 12:17 AM



“ Gerri Roberts lit a candle in memory of John Taylor



Gerri Roberts - May 08, 2025 at 09:00 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Bruce Taylor - May 07, 2025 at 08:40 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Bruce Taylor - May 07, 2025 at 08:38 PM

BT

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Bruce Taylor - May 07, 2025 at 08:34 PM

BT

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Bruce Taylor - May 07, 2025 at 08:34 PM

BT

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Bruce Taylor - May 07, 2025 at 07:02 PM

BT

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Bruce Taylor - May 07, 2025 at 07:01 PM

BT

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Bruce Taylor - May 07, 2025 at 07:00 PM

BT

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Bruce Taylor - May 07, 2025 at 06:58 PM

BT

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Bruce Taylor - May 07, 2025 at 06:57 PM

BT

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Bruce Taylor - May 07, 2025 at 06:56 PM

BT

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Bruce Taylor - May 07, 2025 at 06:55 PM

BT

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Bruce Taylor - May 07, 2025 at 06:54 PM

BT

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Bruce Taylor - May 07, 2025 at 06:53 PM

BT

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Bruce Taylor - May 07, 2025 at 06:51 PM

BT

“ Bruce T. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Benjamin Taylor III.

Bruce T. - May 07, 2025 at 06:42 PM

BB

“ We had many long discussions when he was Commander of the American Legion and we also attended many parades together.

Bonnie Barton-Symonds - May 07, 2025 at 05:03 PM

BT

“ Bruce Taylor lit a candle in memory of John Taylor



Bruce Taylor - May 05, 2025 at 08:32 PM

AY

“ Rest in Peace. The best of memories of you. You were one of a kind.



Alicia Yanez - May 05, 2025 at 04:33 PM



“ Jerry Giudice lit a candle in memory of John Taylor



Jerry Giudice - May 05, 2025 at 03:08 PM

CB

“ *Chelsie and Joseph Bracamonte lit a candle in memory of John Taylor*



Chelsie and Joseph Bracamonte - May 05, 2025 at 12:29 PM

KT

“ *Kathy Thatcher lit a candle in memory of John Taylor*



Kathy Thatcher - May 05, 2025 at 12:28 PM

JS

“ *Juan & Shirley sent a virtual gift in memory of John Taylor*



Juan & Shirley - May 05, 2025 at 11:34 AM



“ *John was a good hard working man. Always lending a helping hand. RIP John!*

Max and Anne Coleman



Anne Coleman - May 05, 2025 at 11:17 AM



“ *Betsy Ajeman lit a candle in memory of John Taylor*



Betsy Ajeman - May 05, 2025 at 08:15 AM

DL

“ *Dakota Levine lit a candle in memory of John Taylor*



Dakota Levine - May 05, 2025 at 03:34 AM

TM

“ *Tommy &Robin Miller lit a candle in memory of John Taylor*



Tommy &Robin Miller - May 05, 2025 at 12:30 AM

CC

“ *A Korean War Veteran, so proud to serve his country 🇺🇸 Thank you for your service to our country may you rest in peace. Condolences to the family.*



Carol Case - May 04, 2025 at 11:29 PM

FG

“ *Frank and Susie Gonzales lit a candle in memory of John Taylor*



Frank and Susie Gonzales - May 04, 2025 at 10:45 PM

LB

“ *Miss our days visiting at Texaco! Rest in peace my friend!*

LaDonna Burgess - May 04, 2025 at 10:17 PM

LF

“ *Lorenzo Fuentes lit a candle in memory of John Taylor*



Lorenzo Fuentes - May 04, 2025 at 10:06 PM

MV

“ *Michael Valenzuela lit a candle in memory of John Taylor*



Michael Valenzuela - May 04, 2025 at 09:17 PM

EV

“ *Erlinda Valenzuela lit a candle in memory of John Taylor*



Erlinda Valenzuela - May 04, 2025 at 09:17 PM

JB

“ *Johnny & Donna Brown lit a candle in memory of John Taylor*



Johnny & Donna Brown - May 04, 2025 at 08:59 PM