



David Lee Taylor

JAN 26, 1941 - NOV 3, 2024



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David Lee Taylor, legendary Muskegon Big Reds football coach passed away peacefully at home on November 3, 2024. He was 83.

Football wasn't just a sport for Dave-it was his calling. His athletic career began as a three-sport star at North Muskegon High School. At Ferris State University, he emerged as a natural leader, serving as team captain for two seasons and earning MVP honors before going on to play for the pro team Grand Rapids Blazers.

Over his remarkable 32-year coaching career, most notably as Head Coach of the Muskegon Big Reds, he amassed an impressive record of 195-99-1. His coaching prowess led to three Class A State Championships (1971, 1986, 1989), eight state tournament appearances, and earned him Coach of the Year honors.

His contributions to local sports were recognized with his 2002 induction into the Muskegon Area Sports Hall of Fame as well as his 2014 induction to the Michigan High School Football Hall of Fame. Beyond the gridiron, Dave was a man of many talents-teacher, basketball and football referee, homebuilder, and co-owner of Shoreline Hardware with his beloved wife of 46 years, Shirley (Crocker) Taylor, who preceded him in death in 2013.

Together, they cherished their time boating, water skiing, snowmobiling, and creating memories at their Ruby Creek cabin on the Pere Marquette River, embracing the lake life with friends and family. Dave leaves behind a legacy of love through his children Jeffrey (Michelle) Taylor and Mitzi (Robbie Costner) Taylor; grandchildren Owen, Ava, and Mitchell; and special friend Barb Lamke.

Friends and family are invited to raise a toast of beer (& ice) to Dave's memory at the Lakeside Vets Club on Wednesday, November 20th, from 1:00 p.m. -3:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be directed to the Big Red Athletic Foundation, c/o Muskegon High School, 80 W Southern Ave., Muskegon, Michigan 49441-2574 to support the program he helped build.



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His impact on the field was matched only by the mark he left on the hearts of those who knew him. Arrangements by Shoreline Memorial Services -- Muskegon Chapel -- (231)-722-5050



Tribute Wall

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A Memorial Tree Was Planted For David Lee Taylor posted:

We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ Shoreline Memorial Services - Muskegon

November 4 at 8:00 PM



Memories only last if you share them

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



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