



Dennis P. Taylor

August 31, 1951 - October 23, 2023

Dennis P. Taylor, 72, of Aurora, passed away on Monday, October 23, 2023, at Ascension Mercy Medical Center. He was born August 31, 1951, in East St. Louis, Illinois.

Dennis was raised on the Southside of Chicago but made his home in Aurora for the past fifty years. He was a devoted member of St. Rita of Cascia Church for over forty-five years.

Dennis was the owner and President of Diversity Packaging of Troy, Michigan, for the last twenty-three years. He loved the game of basketball, having played it for Northern Illinois University and later overseas for the Marathon Oil AAU Basketball club team. For many years, he could be found playing on the courts of the YMCA, Aurora Park District, the Vaughn Center in Aurora, or refereeing games in the Aurora area.

He is survived by his wife of fifty-one years, LaVerne (Strickland) Taylor; his father, William Sherman; two sons, William (Avlon) Taylor, COL Richard (Nelly) Taylor, Sr.; seven grandchildren, Tamia Taylor, Gavielle Taylor, Savion Taylor, Jordan Taylor, Alexa Taylor, Jack Taylor, Richard Taylor, Jr.; two sisters, Loretta (Babatunde) Davies, Sherri Holmes; two brothers, Gary Taylor, Vincent Sherman; many favorite nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Ethel Mae (Woolfolk) Sherman, and his brother, James Sherman.

Funeral mass will be held Saturday, October 28, 2023, at 11:00 AM at St. Rita of Cascia Church; Fr. Oscar Cortés will officiate with interment at Mt. Olivet

Cemetery.

In-state visitation will be held Saturday, October 28, 2023, from 9:00 AM until the time of service at 11:00 AM at St Rita of Cascia Church, 750 Old Indian Trail Road, Aurora, IL 60506. Please send flowers directly to the church.

Arrangements have been entrusted to THE DALEIDEN MORTUARY, 220 North Lake Street, Aurora, Illinois 60506. (630) 631-5500.

Please visit our interactive website at www.daleidenmortuary.com where you may sign the guest book or leave condolences for Dennis' family.

Cemetery Details

Mt. Olivet Cemetery

278 Ashland Avenue
Aurora, IL 60505

Previous Events

In State

OCT 28. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Rita of Cascia Church
750 Old Indian Trail
Aurora, IL 60506
1-630-892-5918

Funeral Mass

OCT 28. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Rita of Cascia Church
750 Old Indian Trail
Aurora, IL 60506
1-630-892-5918

Burial

OCT 28 (CT)

Mt. Olivet Cemetery
278 Ashland Avenue
Aurora, IL 60505

Tribute Wall



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dennis P. Taylor.

October 28, 2023 at 07:57 PM



“ Dennis, Mike, and Bob Taylor were known as “The Taylor Triplets” on the basketball court at NIU in the mid60’s... we were best of teammates, “brothers”, but most of all just great friends!!! He will be sorely missed and we are praying for LaVerne and the entire family. RIP my Brother..
Bob Taylor

Robert Taylor - October 28, 2023 at 12:09 AM



This came from Lynda and Bob Taylor

Robert Taylor - October 28, 2023 at 12:12 AM

MC

“ Sending our deepest condolences and prayers to the Taylor family during this time. I first met Mr Taylor when I was playing basketball for Washington Middle school in Aurora, IL. I was in 7th grade and Mr. Taylor was the referee for some of our games. When I first saw him, I couldn't believe this man who appeared to be a legit NBA superstar, could possibly be our referee.:-) And I soon learned he was much more than that. He'd encourage us and give us tips if we were running into foul trouble. He wouldn't let us hang our heads down and would often times just say "D-up ladies!" And we all loved it- because no other referee took time like Mr. Taylor did to give us these tips and encouraing words. He made an impression on us all & was our favorite referee! I later became close friends with his son Billy & adore Mrs Taylor and Ricky. You all were so blessed to have him. This one hurts! What a blessing he was for the time we got to spend with him- a devoted family man and a wonderful example for everyone in the Aurora community and beyond! Rest in peace Mr. T! -Monica Cannon & family

Monica Cannon - October 27, 2023 at 09:49 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dennis P. Taylor.



October 27, 2023 at 02:08 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dennis P. Taylor.

October 27, 2023 at 01:38 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Dennis P. Taylor.*



October 27, 2023 at 12:35 PM



“ *Dear Taylor Family, I am so sorry for your loss, he will be missed prayers for you family. Diana Uribes*

Diana Uribes - October 27, 2023 at 11:39 AM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Dennis P. Taylor.*



October 27, 2023 at 11:19 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dennis P. Taylor.*



October 26, 2023 at 02:59 PM



“ *Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Dennis P. Taylor.*



October 26, 2023 at 11:13 AM



“ *Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of Dennis P. Taylor.*



October 26, 2023 at 10:26 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dennis P. Taylor.*



October 26, 2023 at 10:13 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dennis P. Taylor.*



October 26, 2023 at 09:48 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Dennis P. Taylor.*



October 26, 2023 at 12:52 AM



“ *Laverne and family, our deepest love and prayers for you and the family. We are thankful to have known Dennis and to have shared in his life.*
George and Cherry Fisher

George and Cherry Fisher - October 25, 2023 at 10:00 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dennis P. Taylor.*



October 25, 2023 at 09:52 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dennis P. Taylor.*



October 25, 2023 at 08:18 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Dennis P. Taylor.*



October 25, 2023 at 07:46 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dennis P. Taylor.

October 25, 2023 at 07:46 PM



“ *Dennis and I were friends for 50 years. We hung out, played together on 🏀 basketball teams, coached each other's sons, and we were always there for each other. On behalf of the WAHS basketball program I'd like to thank the Taylor family for all their contributions to one of the best basketball programs in the state. I've lost a very close friend that I admired and respected, but I know he's at peace, he's not suffering and he's in a better place. RIP my friend ❤️*

curtis shaw - October 25, 2023 at 06:51 PM



My condolences to the family. Dennis was inspirational in my basketball career an in life. He was a role model, mentor, and friend. (Aurora basketball legend) RIP D.

Randy Norman - October 26, 2023 at 10:29 AM



“ *Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dennis P. Taylor.*



October 25, 2023 at 06:49 PM



“ *My condolences to the Taylor family. Dennis was a great Dad, very supportive of his kids. Scott Martens*

Scott Martens - October 25, 2023 at 05:50 PM



I lost my good friend and brother! Today... a whole in my heart! Rest in peace Den!

Frank Kaminsky - October 25, 2023 at 06:16 PM



A Legend.....What a great guy. Always upbeat, family loving, passionate man. Rest in peace you will be missed. Robert Collins

Robert Collins - October 25, 2023 at 06:49 PM