



Paul E. Taylor - Lover of Nature and Leader of Parvin State Park Walks



Dear Friend,

The first thing on Monday morning, a number of our members called or wrote to let me know that one of their foremost natural world mentors had passed away on Sunday. The number of calls I received is a testament to the number of lives Paul Taylor touched as he introduced people to the wonders of nature. His concern for people seemed to match his care for nature.

My encounters with Paul were always characterized by his asking me about what wildlife I had seen lately and his then relaying his own recent sightings. It might seem odd if I told

you that I saw him nearly every New Year's Day for years. This was because for a long time the Christmas bird count in Cumberland County was held on New Year's Day, and he, his wife, and a small entourage would come to our dock looking for eagles, long before eagles were plentiful. He was always mild-mannered despite being in a constant search of some unique wildlife sighting, but clearly he was delighted by even the most common of out-of-door happenings.

Here is how things might go when you chanced to meet Paul. He would hand me a feather he just found on the ground. "Okay, what is it?" he would inquire in a kind and professorial manner. "A yellow-shafted flicker." I would respond. "From where?" he further pressed. "The wing," I replied. "Ah, which wing?" he fired with raised eyebrow. "The right," I replied. Then he simply said, "Good," and dropped the feather. He did this not to be a challenger but rather to get folks to think about what they saw in the field.

Paul lived his life so that we all might not take the small and large wonders of the great out-of-doors for granted. His legacy is in the many, many lives he touched so that they too might appreciate that which he loved; God's creatures great and small.

Our condolences to his wife of 58 years, Marian Faunce ("Bobby"), and to his many friends. He will be missed.

Sincerely,

Jane Morton Galetto
Board President

Paul E. Taylor was born September 3, 1930 in Mt. Airy, Maryland. He began first grade on his 6th birthday and continued in the Mt. Airy schools until he graduated. He attended Maryland Institute of Art in Baltimore for three years then transferred to The King's College in Delaware where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree at graduation. After graduation from The King's College he went to Faith Theological Seminary, Elkins Park, Pa. and graduated with a MST degree. While at Seminary Mr. Taylor married Marian Faunce in June of 1956. In August 1958 they moved to Vineland, N.J. where he became the principal and 5th and 6th grade teacher at Vineland Christian School on Spring Road, presently Cumberland Christian School. After teaching at Vineland Christian School for 10 years he began working at Parvin State Park in September 1968 and continued there as the naturalist/environmental specialist until 2008 when he retired from the park. Mr. Taylor continued volunteering his services during the Summers for the campers and cabin folks and also having Sunday afternoon walks through the Fall, Winter and Spring. He also went into elementary public schools and presented his natural science programs to the children. For many years he has

written a weekly column for the Cumberland and Salem Guide, The Artist's Eye. He attended First Baptist Church in Newfield for many years and was involved in lots of their activities. Mr. Taylor passed away early in the morning on September 7, 2014. A memorial service will be conducted on Saturday, September 27, 2:00 P.M. at the First Baptist Church, Catawba & Rosemont Aves. Newfield, NJ.

CU on the River!

<http://www.cumauriceriver.org>

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