

John Z. Taylor

John Z. "Johnnie" Taylor, 93, of Old Fields, WV passed away October 23, 2012, at the Grant County Nursing Home, following a short illness. He was the son of the late John Dan and Ruth Virginia (Huffman) Taylor. Johnnie was born January 21, 1919 at the family farm in Old Fields. He graduated from Moorefield High School in 1938.

Johnnie spent most of his life operating the farm with first his father and then his son and was extremely proud that the farm has been recognized as a "Century Farm" – one that has been in continuous operation by the same family for 100 years or more.

Johnnie provided service and leadership to countless local boards and businesses: the Hardy County Farm Bureau, WV Cattlemen's Association, WV Poultry Association, Farm Service Agency County Committee, Tri-County Fair, and too many others to list. He was particularly proud of being a founding board member of the Love Memorial Health Clinic. He always considered the establishment of that clinic to be a major benefit for the community. He also was a life member of the Loyal Order of the Moose, coached Little League in his younger days, supported 4-H and FFA youth activities at fairs and festivals, and always made the farm available to FFA members to learn and practice sheep shearing.

Johnnie also could be counted upon to work the Old Fields voting precinct during every election. In 2010, WV's Secretary of State recognized him for serving as a poll worker in Hardy County for the past fifty years.

Johnnie was a member of the Moorefield Church of the Brethren.

Johnnie was preceded in death by his parents and his wife, Catherine Belle (Lewis) Taylor. He is survived by his sister, Jean Taylor Campbell, of Hendersonville, NC; his son, Daniel Zachary "Zack" Taylor, and his wife, Lisa, of Old Fields; his daughter, Alice Catherine Taylor and her long-time partner, Gary Cassier, of Charleston, WV; and grandsons Daniel Jonathan "DJ" Taylor, his wife Sarah, and their three children and Randall Taylor, his wife Joanna, and their two children, all of Old Fields.

Visitation will be held at Elmore Funeral Home, 217 Winchester Ave., Moorefield, WV on Friday, October 26, 2012 from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. A service to celebrate Johnnie's life will be held at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, October 27, 2012, at Elmore Funeral Home, with the Pastors Russell and Lucy Webster officiating. Burial will follow in Olivet Cemetery, Moorefield, WV.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Moose Charities, 155 S. International Drive, Mooseheart, IL 60539-1100, www.moosecharities.org or the Moorefield High School FFA.

You may send your condolences to the family at 8830 US HWY220N, Old Fields, WV 26845.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Elmore Funeral Home.

