



Dr. Olivia Taylor

November 22, 1949 - November 24, 2022

Olivia Taylor departed this life peacefully and was surrounded by loved ones on November 24, 2022.

Olivia was born on November 22, 1949, in Decatur, Illinois, the beautiful daughter of Ford and Predency (Helm) Taylor. After the passing of her father, she was raised and loved by William S. Rogers, Sr. She was the oldest of William and Predency's seven children. In that position of birth, Olivia was "The Boss" and she kept her siblings in line.

Growing up, Olivia loved school! She was an avid reader and an excellent student. In fact, she was known as a bookworm. She proudly earned her bachelor's degree and her master's degree from Eastern Illinois University. Her first career was teaching. She taught Biology at Eisenhower High School in Decatur, Illinois. She thoroughly enjoyed educating young minds and encouraging her students to pursue their dreams. Olivia went on to study at Meharry Medical School of Dentistry in Nashville, Tennessee where she became a Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS). She actively practiced dentistry for thirty-seven years at public health facilities, military bases, and state prisons in Illinois, Kentucky, and Georgia. During those thirty-seven years, she worked as a research dentist. However, her most rewarding assignment was providing dental care to families in low-income areas.

Olivia was a small woman in stature, only 5 feet tall, but she had a larger-

than-life personality! Even though she seemed tough at times, she was a real softy! Ask and she would give. Her giving nature was showered upon her family, friends, and her church. She faithfully attended church. and served in roles such as Sunday School Teacher, Vacation Bible School Coordinator, and Choir Director.

One of Olivia's favorite books was The Color Purple. Not only did she enjoy the book, but she also loved the color. She believed purple represented royalty. She loved it so much that she wore purple day, and even added the color to her hair. However, her real passion was traveling. She traveled to every state in the U.S., Australia, Israel, Greece, Switzerland, and so many more destinations.

Olivia lived a very full life. She departed this life surrounded by her daughter Sabrina, her brother Cliff, and her grandchildren, Bryce and Skyler, who affectionately called her "Nana".

Olivia will be missed more than words can express. Celebrating and treasuring her memory are her loving daughter, Sabrina Morris-Trice, her grandchildren, Bryce Taylor Morris and Skyler Taylor Trice, her brothers, Clifford Taylor (Cassie), Thomas Taylor, Brian Rogers, Duane Rogers (Kim), William Rogers, Jr. (Donna), and a host of relatives and friends.

Olivia follows into eternity her parents, Ford N. Taylor, William, and Predency Rogers; grandfather, Noble Helm, Sr.; grandmother, Dora Helm; and her sister, Vickie Pannell.

REST IN PEACE, DEAREST OLIVIA

Tribute Wall

AL

“ I didn't know until this morning. I've tried contacting you, now I know why no response. My heart aches. I only knew you a few years. All the times you sat in my chair, the times we cried together. You were such an inspiration to me and my clients. You dared them to be bold with their hair. I just text your phone this morning. My condolences to the family. Forever your Statesboro Hair Stylist Love Aprel Lane.



Aprel Lane - March 16, 2024 at 11:08 AM

JM

“ Olivia and I were classmates at SDHS in Decatur, IL class of 1967. At our 50th reunion I learned she was a dentist helping lots of people. Olivia was a sweetheart and I know I'll see her again in heaven when Jesus returns. Sing with the angels, Olivia!!



Janet Pierson Myers - January 06, 2023 at 07:38 PM

DM

“ My deepest condolences to her family. Our SDHS Class of '67 will mourn her passing. God Bless her and the family.

Doug McGaughey - January 05, 2023 at 10:48 PM

JM

“ I am so sorry to hear of Olivia's passing. I remember her fondly from home room, and enjoyed catching up with her at our 50th reunion. Her friends & family have my deepest sympathies. Jan Munson

Jan Munson - January 05, 2023 at 09:23 PM

AM

“ I would just like to extend my condolences to the family. They were always very welcoming to me and others in the cottage hill neighborhood. I was always treated like family. Olivia was always so smart and such a good person. God bless 💕💕 Alan Meredith

Alan Meredith - December 16, 2022 at 09:18 PM

DC

“ Traveling in Athens, Greece and sailing to Mykonos, Rhodes, Crete, Ephesus, Patmos, and Santorini



Dinah Chapman - December 14, 2022 at 12:07 AM

CB

“ To the Dr. Olivia Taylor Family:

The Charter Members of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. – Zeta Nu Chapter of Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, Illinois would like to offer our condolences!

It is with heavy hearts that we express our gratitude for the support that our classmate Olivia provided to us as we committed to pursue the challenge of establishing the first African American Greek Letter Fraternity on the campus of EIU.

Olivia and the other Ladies of the “Norton house” provided moral support along with tutoring, class notes, and meals upon our return from frequent trips to and from The University of Illinois from 1967 thru 1968.

The pledge lines S.S. LONELY DRIFTERS and S.S. TENACIOUS SEVEN credit Dr. Olivia Taylor and the Norton House Ladies for helping us create the pathway for Alpha Phi Alpha and other members of the Divine Nine to establish at EIU.

THANK YOU OLIVIA and God Bless your family!

C R Bradford - December 08, 2022 at 11:00 PM

DC

“ Dr Olivia Taylor, oh how we love you and will always cherish you... this is one of the moments I will never forget hanging out in the 90s (met Edwin Hawkins); we were so excited 😊. Your big heart, your laugh, are always vivid in my mind. My earliest memory of you? I think we were running up and down Illinois street (?) at your grandparents' house (the Helms). Our families were knitted together and it was something special. At church, at school, at home...God had us all wrapped up together, from two corner houses in the west end, even into our adult lives. Rest in the heavenly realm, beloved Olivia. Well done ❤️🙏❤️🙏. Love always and condolences to all who loved you.



Dinah Chapman - December 08, 2022 at 08:01 PM

LT

“ As a youth , I met Olivia and her family.We lived in the same neighborhood,a few blocks away from each other.I witnessed her guidance techniques,not only with her siblings but with me ,too.She was a kind spirit who,looking back,had discipline and knew what she wanted in life.....and knew how to acquire it
I last talked with Olivia after talking with Clifford and she was present.We had a short conversation,but this was the last time we spoke.I am glad I had the opportunity.She lived a well-spent Life.

Lasana Taylor - December 07, 2022 at 05:53 PM

NR

“ Sabrina and family, I am at loss of words, just know I am praying for you all during this trying time. I had the pleasure of working with Dr. Taylor the past 4 years, she was one of a kind, full of personality, believed in God fiercely and loved her grandchildren deeply. She loved to travel, especially cruise. She was always getting me to try new "healthy" food. When my family had Covid, she brought us all the essentials and some of her remedies, she was a true caregiver. When our company moved to electronic records, I had a time teaching her the new software. She would always say "I need Skylar to come show me how to do it, I bet she can". Dr. Taylor spoke fondly of Sabrina, how smart she was, how proud she was of her working at the school and from home and how she was a great mother. Each year during the holidays Dr. Taylor enjoyed buying and mailing gifts to her great grandchildren. My father's family is from Seattle, where her grandson resided as well, she always told me she was going to go with me to visit so she could surprise him. I'm sorry we didn't make that trip. From the time I met her she always said she and her brother were going to retire in Costa Rica, I hope she's traveling all over, I hope she has a big beautiful purple mansion in Heaven. When any adverse situation came up Dr. Taylor always said, "My Angels got me!". I will see you on the other side Doc! Much love, your other favorite hygienist (2nd to Aldene) Nikki

Nikki Weathers, RDH - December 07, 2022 at 07:40 AM

DR

“ My deepest sympathy to Sabrina and family. I will always have fond memories of my classmate Olivia from Meharry, Hinman Dental meetings and our 35th Class reunion May 2019. Rest well, Olivia 🙏



Dr Cathy L Rearden - December 06, 2022 at 10:35 PM

WD

“ *Dr. Olivia Taylor will always be remembered as a wonderful person and caring professional.
My deepest sympathy to her family and friends.*

Wendy JangDhari, DDS - December 06, 2022 at 10:06 PM

KN

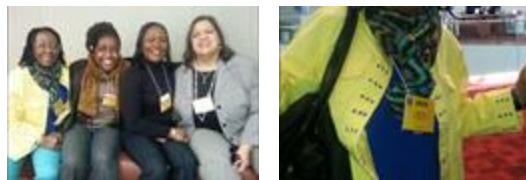
“ *Nana, the colored hair Queen! I miss you so much. I hear your laugh every time I think of you* 💜



Kyani Norton - December 06, 2022 at 04:12 PM

JA

“ *My condolences to Olivia's daughter and family. Lifting you all up in prayer. Olivia was a kind and sweet classmate. I saw her back in March at the Hindman. We would look forward to seeing our classmates. Here are two pictures from the past Hindman meeting. RIP Classmate. Your friend and classmate Jada.*



Jada Alexander - December 06, 2022 at 12:24 PM

KP

“ Glad we were able to take this trip and make more memories. We will miss you madly. Love you



Kelsi Palmer - December 05, 2022 at 09:20 PM

DN

Sabrina and family, I am so sorry for your loss. Your mom was such a beautiful lady. Your memories of her will be precious and priceless. Blessings to you all and I am praying for peace of mind. Love you.

Donna Nelms - December 05, 2022 at 10:06 PM

DH

Sabrina/family, I was so moved in hearing about the loss of your Mom, my cousin, that I was at a great loss for words. But, I knew that she had a heart for the love of God and that she was in her resting place prepared for her. She was a shorty in stature but very large in heart. She will be truly blessed. We loved her and she loved her family. May God bless you and your family and renew your strength in every area needed. For God is a complete restorer of Spirit and Mind. Love you the CHARLES HELM FAMILY ❤️❤️🙏🙏🙏

Dorothy Helm - December 06, 2022 at 05:56 PM

AH

Olivia Olivia, Olivia! Cuzzo..., it always hurts to get news that one of Our Loved have left Us. You're already missed and will always be Loved to Life and beyond. We may have lost You here but the next dimension has definitely gained a real Angel. We Love You, Cousin Sabrina and pray and meditate that You have strength through this! From Momma, Me, Hassan, Yacub, and the entire Charles Helm Squad! Muah! 🤪🥹🐾❤️🖤🌱🌹

Anthony Helm - December 06, 2022 at 06:07 PM

CT

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Cliff Taylor - December 05, 2022 at 08:50 PM

CT

Our last picture together. Miss you but will never forget you sis.!❤️

Cliff Taylor - December 05, 2022 at 08:52 PM



“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



Sabrina Morris-Trice - December 05, 2022 at 07:52 PM



“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



Sabrina Morris-Trice - December 05, 2022 at 07:43 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Sabrina Morris-Trice - December 05, 2022 at 07:30 PM



“ *Dr. Olivia Taylor's celebration services will be in 2023. Details will be provided at a later date.*

Kelsi Palmer - December 05, 2022 at 07:25 PM