



## Col. Dwight E. Naylor

February 28, 1926 - May 1, 2020

Colonel Dwight E. Naylor, 94, passed away peacefully on May 1, 2020.

Born February 28, 1926 to Joseph Sylvester and Ethel Florence (Thompson) Naylor at “Naylor’s Crossing” on Smith-Goshen Road in Beloit, Ohio. Dwight graduated from Garfield Elementary and earned his diploma from Goshen High School after the war. Dwight joined the United States Marine Corps at age 16. He was afraid the war would end before he (and other under-aged boys) could defend their country. He had a tremendous love of country and prided himself on his service to his country.

Dwight went to boot camp at Paris Island, SC. He was stationed at Camp Pendleton, CA. and attended cold weather school at Pickle Meadows, CA. Dwight graduated from the Indiana Wesleyan University and continued graduate studies at the Ohio State University, Whittenburg University, and the University of Toledo.

While in the Marines, he attended several schools at Quantico, Basic Officer school, Command and Staff School 1 and 2, and Tank Officers Armored Command at Fort Knox, KY.

Dwight is a survivor of Iwo Jima where he spent his 19th birthday on Green Beach and witnessed the flag raising on Mount Suribachi. He served in WWII and Korea, and as an advisor in Vietnam. He was a recruiter in Lima, Ohio.

In retirement, he was a patrolman in Monroe and Fort Shawnee, Ohio and a Wells Fargo guard in Jacksonville, FL.

He was on the Board of Directors at the Mandarin Senior Center in Jacksonville. For years, he served as an Ombudsman for the Florida State Attorney and volunteered as a mediator for the State Attorney’s Juvenile Justice First Offenders Program.

Dwight’s Ohio family includes his four children and their spouses, 21 grandchildren, and 47 great-grandchildren. In Florida, he has two sons by marriage, their spouses as well as a granddaughter and spouse and two great-grandsons. His Florida family admire and thank him for his unselfish and devoted care of Louise for more than ten years.

Dwight found Phillis, his late-in-life love and best friend, in Jacksonville, Florida. They moved to “Beautiful Ohio” in 2006, making their home in Alliance, Ohio. For ten years, they were “snow birds” enjoying winter in Florida and the other seasons in Ohio.

Dwight continued his community work by giving generously to several projects at Beloit

Park.

In lieu of flowers, Dwight will be honored by contributions to the Beloit Friends Church, 18042 5th Street, Beloit, Ohio 44609.

Preceded in death by his parents, Dwight is survived by his wife, Phyllis Lichter Naylor, Nancy (Russ) Sweet, Alice (Steve) Webb, Joe (Becky) Naylor, and Ray (Kathy) Naylor all of Ohio, sons by marriage in Florida Mike (Robin) Solomon, David (Kathleen) Solomon, Lee (Linda) Ahr, sister Margaret (Joe) McPherson of Indiana, the big Lichter family, and many cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends.

One of Dwight's favorite scriptures is Psalm 91.

Private services will be held. Burial, with military honors, will immediately follow at Damascus Cemetery.

You are invited to view Dwight's tribute wall, offer condolences and share memories at <http://www.sharerfuneralhome.com>. Arrangements are by the Sharer-Stirling-Skivolocke Funeral Home.

# Cemetery

---

## **Damascus Cemetery**

101 Valley Rd.

Damascus, OH, 44460

# Comments

---



“ I met Dwight as a neighbor in his Jacksonville home in the mid 90s. We became friends and supported each other at a time when both of us went through some difficult times in our life. Some of my fondest memories are when the two of us would take walks through the neighborhood and going to the Navy base for lunch. As both of us evolved into better times in our lives, our friendship continued to grow. I especially enjoyed playing pinochle with him and Phyllis.

My family was fortunate enough to visit Dwight and Phyllis a couple years ago in Ohio, and there he shared his past with us, which was a gift. While it is sad to say goodbye, I know he is in a better place where he can rest in peace having touched so many lives.

Our prayers are with Phyllis that God may comfort her.

Guy, Donna and Christian

**guy chasse** - June 06, 2020 at 08:19 AM

---



“ I wrote a letter to Mr. Naylor in 2010. I'd like to share it here as this seems to be an appropriate place. I apologize if it is too long, but there was a lot to say:

Dear Mr. Naylor,

I've often thought over the years what a very special teacher, leader and mentor you were to all of us in 6th grade at Deshler Elementary School, but especially to me. My parents were divorced and I lived with my mother, her sister and my grandparents at 1366 Lockbourne Rd, just a block from the school. My father lived in California, and I rarely saw him. So I really looked up to you as a father figure.

You were coaching our basketball and softball teams. In fact I still remember when you were in the coach's box and put your right hand up to your chin, that was the "steal" sign and I would run from first to second, usually being safe. You would take us on overnight trips to the YMCA park where we stayed in cabins, went snow sledding and played football at night, with the snow falling and the light from auto headlights illuminating the field. I remember sledding one night and, the school custodian falling off a saucer sled and the blood on his bald head from the impact. I'm pretty sure he didn't suffer any permanent damage.

In the classroom you taught us algebra, which didn't normally come until 7th grade. You taught us how to play chess and we had tournaments after school. Chess was such a great introduction to strategic thinking which was critical later in life. I understand that you went on to a military career and retired as a Marine Colonel. That sounds like you did pretty well.

For myself, I went on to get a BA degree from Ohio State, served as a Naval Officer at NAS Oceana in Virginia Beach, and am now the Vice President of Human Resources for a company headquartered in Anaheim, California, where I'll retire in 2013 after 30 years. I have a great wife and step-daughter, son-in-law, plus 2 very special grand-children. Things went well for me too.

Well, all your students are 65 years old now, and it's been a long time since we were together at Deshler, but I'll never forget that year, all my old friends, and I'll never forget what a fine man you were. I was worried that I might not have the opportunity to tell you this, but thanks to Susan I have finally gotten the chance. You had a real impact in a lot of young lives.

I apologize if this seems too verbose, but I had saved up a lot of thoughts over these 50+ years and I didn't want to leave anything out.

All the best to you, Colonel.

Ron Hussey.....Deshler Elementary, Columbus, Ohio, Class of 1957



“ Our sympathy to Phyllis and family.



**Gayle and Bill Blair** - May 07, 2020 at 07:10 PM

---



“ Dwight is truly a national military hero. And a wonderful father figure who his Florida family truly respects, loves, and admires.

We will never forget how he stood by my mother in her final years. After her death we wanted to remain in close contact with Dwight. We did so by having lunch together every Thursday. In the seventeen years since my mother's death we have thoroughly enjoyed Dwight's friendship and welcoming Phyllis into our family.

Today, at our traditional Thursday lunch, we raised our glasses with a big toast to Colonel Dwight Naylor.

Mike and Robin Solomon

**Mike Solomon** - May 07, 2020 at 05:27 PM

---



“ We share the sadness of Dwight's Ohio family and send our condolences to them, and to Phyllis. Dwight was a dignified, brave man. He was also gentle, kind and compassionate. Everyone from the Solomon family loved him as our own. He was a wonderful father figure and a beloved father-in-law. The "step" part never seemed to matter. Our memories are of Christmas eggnog parties, shared ice cream treats, lunches at Lillian's and most especially the Gator-Buckeye rivalries, including those unforgettable public "pay-offs" by the loser. We are with you in spirit as you lay Dwight to rest. We treasure the times we had with him, and the gift of having him become a part of our family. We send our deepest sympathy to Phyllis, who filled the latter years of Dwight's life with fun, happiness and love. The world has lost a true hero.

David and Kathy (Long) Solomon

Kathleen Ann Long - May 04, 2020 at 04:32 PM

---



“ Sure gonna miss playing pinochle with this guy. He was a wonderful man and a great cousin to George. They will have lots to talk about up in heaven, where I know for sure they both are. Audrey Semler

Audrey Semler - May 04, 2020 at 08:52 AM

---



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dwight E. Naylor.



May 03, 2020 at 08:37 PM

---



“ It is with much sadness I hear of Dwight's passing. As a young child I lived with the Naylor family, When my Dad was in the service. Had many fun time at Naylor's crossing. His parent's became Mama and Daddy Naylor to me and my family . To his family, you have my prayers and may God wrap his arms around you and give you comfort. Many found memories of Dwight and his family. June McEldowney

June McEldowney - May 03, 2020 at 07:41 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



**Sharer-Stirling-Skivolocke Funeral Home** - May 03, 2020 at 03:50 PM



“ A truly wonderful man

**Bev Groh** - May 03, 2020 at 03:54 PM



“ We could never have wished for a better brother-in-law for our sister Phyllis...She and he were best friends - we are so sad he is no longer with her but know she will always have wonderful memories of him within her heart.

**Denny & Judy** - May 03, 2020 at 08:46 PM