

# Obituaries



## John Alvin Gant, Jr.

Funeral services for John Alvin Gant, Jr., 61 of Enterprise, LA were held at Jonesville First Pentecostal Church on Friday, October 29, 2021 at 10:00 AM with Bro. Bruce Lofton officiating. Interment followed at Palmer Family Cemetery in Enterprise, LA, under the direction of Young's Funeral Home - Jonesville.

John Alvin Gant, Jr. was born on Thursday, April 28, 1960 in Harris County, TX. and passed away

Monday, October 25, 2021 at Rapides Regional Medical Center in Alexandria, LA.

He is preceded in death by his father, John Alvin Gant Sr., and brother, Mark Charrier.

He is survived by his wife, Amy Gant of Enterprise, LA; three sons, John Riley Gant of Vidalia, LA, Ryan Porter Gant of Jonesville, LA, and Justin Bordelon of Monroe, LA; mother, Sadie White Charrier of Jonesville, LA; and two grandsons, Bryson Anthony

Jones and Talen Porter Gant. He is also survived by a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Pallbearers were Bryan Michot, Chris Palmer, Donnie Michot, Justin Parker, Tim Palmer and Matt Eubanks.

Honorary Pallbearers were Kenny White and Wren Palmer.

To leave an online condolence for the family please visit [www.youngsfh.com](http://www.youngsfh.com).

## John Marvin Taylor, Jr.

John Marvin Taylor Jr., 81, a resident of Summit, MS, passed away on October 30, 2021 at his residence.

Funeral services were held at First Baptist Church of Summit on Tuesday, November 2, 2021 at 11 AM with burial in Harrisonburg, LA at 2:30 PM. Dr. Larry LeBlanc officiated with Hartman-Jones Funeral Home of McComb in charge of arrangements.

Marvin was born in Ferriday, LA., on January 3, 1940. He was the son of the late John Marvin Taylor, Sr. and Frankie Alberta Scott Taylor.

Marvin was a Registered Forester and a member of the First Baptist Church of Summit. He was raised on a working farm in Jonesville, LA where they raised soybeans, cotton, and cattle. After high school, Marvin attended Louisiana Tech University where he majored in Forestry Management. During the summer of 1959, Marvin went to Kelly Creek, Idaho where he worked for the U.S. Forest service building and maintaining trails throughout the mountains of this region. This experience proved to be one of the highlights of his life. In the summer of 2020, after more than 50 years, Marvin was able to go back to Idaho to visit where he was fortunate enough to be able to walk some of those same trails he was responsible for building. He then went on to graduate with his Bachelors of Science degree in August of 1961.

On December 23, 1962, Marvin married his



first wife, Patricia Miller, and shortly thereafter accepted a job working for the Texas Forest Service, the Forestry agency of Texas, located in Lufkin. He was the youngest person to have ever held the position of Texas Forest Service's District Forester. In November of 1968, Marvin was offered the opportunity to work for the Lutchter and Moore Lumber Company in Orange, Texas and was soon promoted to the position of Chief Forester. In September, 1976, Marvin and Pat, moved to McComb, MS where he had accepted a job as a forester with Mid-continent Systems. In time and after much prayer, he and Pat agreed that he would go into business for himself as a Consulting forester. This business eventually became Taylor Forestry, Inc.

By 2003, Marvin was ready to retire after a career that spanned 42 years as a forester. Along the way he was fortunate enough to be appointed by the Mississippi Governor to as a director of the Mississippi Board of Registered Foresters. He served in that position for twelve years. He also served as Chairman of the Mississippi Chapter of the Association of Consulting Foresters and served a three-year term as Director of the Gulf States Region of the ACF. In addition to these, he was on the Board of Directors of the Texas Forestry Association and later the Mississippi Forestry Association.

Marvin would tell you that the most rewarding events in his life were the services that he felt God called him to do. In 1982, he was called to the construction mission ministry and went on numerous mission trips with a group that by 1994, would come to be known as the Church Building Ministries, Inc. (CBMI). Beginning in Sep-

tember of 2006, he and his second wife, Dorothy, handled most of the operations of CBMI and they did so until she went home to be with the Lord in July of 2020. Marvin was honored that God used him over the years to plan and carry out construction mission work on over 75 Christian organizations, making over 120-week long mission trips in the continental U.S. and in Honduras. It has been said that Marvin had a legacy of building churches across the west.

He was preceded in death by his father and mother, one brother, Scott Taylor; his first wife, Patricia, and his second wife, Dorothy.

He is survived by three children; Michael and wife, Jennifer of Amite, LA, Jeffery and wife, Susan of Summit, MS, and Jill and husband, Rick of Clancy, MT; four step-children; Duane and wife, Jerri, Kevin and wife, Patsy, Dale and wife, Kim, and Anthony and, wife Lauren. Marvin is also survived by seven grandchildren, Maggie Magee and husband Dustin, John Michael Taylor and wife, Dakota, Gracie Taylor, Reed Taylor and wife, Mary Margaret, Jamie Claire Taylor, Morgan Oie, and Cole Oie; and six step- grandchildren; Nathan, Amber and husband, Matt, Madison, Nealie, Jake, and Ella; three great-step-grandchildren Wyatt Morrison, Hunter Morrison and Dovey Morrison with numerous nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers were Mike Boggs, Gary Norsworthy, Jack Honea, James Portrey, Jim Talley and Dallas Smith.

Honorary pallbearers were his grandsons Reed Taylor, John Michael Taylor, Cole Oie, Nathan Thompson and Jake Thompson.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Church Building Ministries, Inc.

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## La. Community & Technical Colleges and CommCare partner to develop Louisiana's first Certified Medication Aide program

(Central Louisiana) CommCare Corporation, a Louisiana-based nonprofit that operates skilled nursing and rehabilitation centers, and Louisiana Community and Technical Colleges will hold a luncheon honoring Louisiana's first five graduates of a newly approved program that provides both career advancement and a means to alleviate a shortage in health care workers. LTCTS and CommCare worked together with LDH to get approval for certification program for Medication Assistants. The luncheon will be held at 11:30 on Friday, November 5, 2021 at the Westside Library in Alexandria.

"This program not only creates a career path that begins with Temporary Nursing Assistants and advances through Certified Nursing Assistants and Certified Medication Aides," ex-



**FIRST FIVE** graduates pictured above left to right : Necole Mitchell (The Columns), Virginia Bell (NC), Breanna Braxton (NC), Anshinque Young (Ti), Kirstin Hayes (NC).

plained Becky Gauthier, CommCare's Vice President of Clinical Services, "it is an opportunity to improve quality by allowing trained and cer-

tified personnel to administer medications to patients, which in turn allows nurses to spend more time at the bedside assessing and treating patients."

LTCTS and CommCare worked with consultant pharmacists to submit the program to LDH. Between CommCare's contribution and a grant awarded for the training, tuition for the students is 100% covered.

"We are so proud of these trailblazing students," said Dr. Wendi Palermo, Executive Director of Academics and Workforce at LTCTS. "We are also proud of what we can accomplish for Louisiana citizens when educators, health care providers and the State work together to create much-needed and valuable programs benefitting all Louisianians."



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