

The Milton Hershey School®
Board of Managers
takes great pleasure in announcing

■
PAUL TAYLOR

CLASS OF 1953

■
2011 MHS
Alumnus of the Year



His deeds are his monument — his life is our inspiration



Paul Taylor '53

the School in great detail. After checking in at Hershey Hospital and being fitted at the clothing room, he was escorted to his homeroom in Senior Hall, where Lyndon Hess was his homeroom and English teacher. “For a little kid slightly bewildered and a little scared, you couldn’t ask for a nicer, more understanding and compassionate person than Mr. Hess to welcome you to class,” said Paul. That day, he went from room to room for classes, and then rode the bus to Unit 31 Meno, where he met houseparents Ernest and Florence Habig, milked his first cow, had supper with the other guys in the home, washed, and got ready for bed by 9:30 p.m.

“Reality didn’t set in until the next morning when the hall bell rang at 5:30 a.m. and I had 15 minutes to get dressed, make my bed, go to the basement, change into my barn clothes, get out to the barn and start work,” Paul said. “Only 5 ½ years to go [until graduation].”

Although he spent much of his career teaching astronauts and working on classified programs for the U.S. government, Paul Taylor '53 has humble roots in a small village in Chester County.

Paul’s family was desperately poor. His father died in January 1947, leaving his mother and four children — three boys and a girl, ages 2-17. Paul’s father had been without a steady job for more than a year prior to his death.

At age 12, Paul enrolled at Milton Hershey School on Nov. 12, 1947. The School was primarily a vocational school then, and Paul wanted to learn a trade where he could be secure and help his mother and younger brother.

Paul remembers his first day at

Paul with his brother Tommy, age 3, in front of student home Meno, 1948.





Paul at bat, taken by Jim Daugherty '54, Summer 1952.

for at Homecoming. "You have experiences in common that no one else in the world has," Paul said.

When Paul left MHS, he was totally independent and capable of taking care of himself. He had chosen printing as his vocation at MHS, and following graduation in 1953, he had a job with Feroe Press, Pottstown. After working there for about a year, though, Paul knew that printing would not be his life's work.

In Fall 1954, Paul enlisted in the U.S. Air Force. After basic training, he went to Denver, Colo., where he completed several electronics courses and became an instructor at Lowry Air Force Base. Following his discharge in June 1959, Martin Marietta Aerospace Corp. (MMA), Denver, hired him as a technician. Within two years, he had advanced

from technician to associate engineer, engineer, and finally senior engineer. Five years later, following the completion of the Titan I intercontinental ballistic missile program, Paul's job was terminated. Newly married, he and his wife Judy moved to

Among Paul's fondest memories at MHS are the three years he sang in the Glee Club. The highlight was participating in the Pennsylvania Forensic and Music League State Finals Contest in Pittsburgh in 1953, under the direction of Virgil Alexander. To compete, each group had to sing a song of its choosing and an assigned song, a cappella. The Class C MHS Glee Club sang its assigned song and Class B's required song to win its class.

Another of Paul's memories is student home baseball. The School had an organized league with each of the four closest units playing each other all summer, with play-offs at the end. The students made friendships that lasted a lifetime. It's Paul's classmates and the guys from his unit that he looks

MHS Glee Club, 1952-53; from left, Paul is first in the back row.





Paul in the MHS Print Shop, 1952.

Pennsylvania, where Paul began teaching in computer operations at the Burroughs Corp., Paoli. Three years later, another career move took them, with son Eric, 1½, to Los Angeles, where Paul accepted a position with Scientific Data Systems training operations.

In 1971, Paul returned to MMA to develop courses and teach classes about several experiments to take place on Skylab, America's first experimental space station. He instructed astronauts, technicians, and engineers at the Space Center near Houston, Texas.

Following the Skylab Program, Paul moved on to the Viking Program, which

was intended to determine whether life ever existed on Mars. Paul wrote courses and taught classes about computerized ground testing and flight components on the Viking Lander. On that project, he got to meet some very interesting people, including the late Dr. Carl Sagan, an astronomer who played a leading role in the American space program from its inception.

During Paul's last five years with MMA, he worked on classified programs, which he can't discuss by name or purpose, but they included work for the National Security Agency, Central Intelligence Agency, and National Reconnaissance Office. He has commendations from all three.

In his community, Paul is one of three remaining charter members of the Southglenn Optimist Club, founded in 1975. He has served as president and is currently chairman of the Scholarship Committee. Every year, the club awards a scholarship to a student from one of the three high schools in the Littleton, Colo., area. The club also supports the Village Headstart School where they've built a "time-out" room, outfitted a medical room, and are on call for emergency assistance, financial or physical. In 2005, Paul was appointed to the school's Policy Committee, which is composed of school staff, parents, and volunteers. After serving two years on the committee, Paul was elected chairman. The committee reviews all aspects of the school's operation, including staff qualifications, fundraising, and curriculum.

Paul was one of the first alumni to volunteer for the MHS Spartan Ambassador program when it was introduced to assist with admissions. Distance from MHS has not deterred Paul; he has visited with various state agencies in Colorado to encourage referrals to MHS.

Since retiring, Paul follows his passion for racing. He maintains a Formula “V” race car, and his son drives it. Paul started racing motorcycles in 1959 and raced in motorcross, flat track, and road races until 1965. He won many and had a lot of second and third finishes. In fact, in 1962, after two years of trying, Paul was the first 500cc motorcycle to reach the top of Pike’s Peak in a 17-mile race to



Paul, #84, gets ready for a road race in Castle Rock, Colo., 1963.

the summit run annually on New Year’s Day. Paul took time away from racing when he got married and became a father. He resumed racing from 1972 to 1982.

Paul and Judy have two adult children: Eric, land researcher for Trans-Continent Oil Company; and Amy, a pilot for American Airlines.

Paul offers the following advice to alumni and students alike: “Learn all you can. Take part in all the activities that you can; you will never have this many activities available to you and you never know what experience will give you an opportunity to do something special when you leave school. There will be disappointments; forget them and press on to the greater achievements of the future. Structured academics aren’t for everyone; for some, hands-on experiences work just as well to achieve your goals. There are ways; just look for them.”

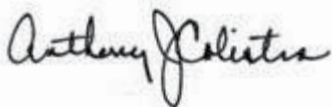


Paul’s family, from left, son Eric Taylor, Paul, son-in-law Erik Harr, daughter-in-law Alison Taylor, granddaughter Madeline, daughter Amy, wife Judy, and granddaughter Emily.

THE CAREER SUCCESS OF OUR 2011 ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR is a direct tribute to the work ethic and enterprising spirit exemplified by Mr. Hershey himself. Paul Taylor took advantage of the opportunities available to him at Milton Hershey School in the career technical training he received and became self-sufficient after graduating from MHS. Like Mr. Hershey, Paul was anxious to explore a career beyond the printing business where he began. After working a brief time for a printer, Paul enlisted in the U.S. Air Force, a move that led him to a successful career in the aerospace industry.

Modeling the philanthropic spirit of Mr. and Mrs. Hershey, Paul contributes countless hours to serving children in his local community and to MHS. In spite of his success, Paul remains humble about his accomplishments.

On behalf of Milton Hershey School, I am proud to present Paul Taylor to the Board of Managers for the highest honor of Alumnus of the Year on Commencement Day, June 12, 2011. This award acknowledges his achievements and the great honor he has brought to his alma mater.



Dr. Anthony J. Colistra '59
President, Milton Hershey School

MHS ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Pete Gurt '85, *Senior Vice President & Chief Operating Officer*

Ralph Carfagno '73, *Senior Director, Alumni Relations & Programs*

Doreen Garman, *Coordinator, Alumni Campus*

Mike Kenna '70, *MHSAA Representative*

Catherine Skena, *Coordinator, Alumni Relations & Programs*

Jack Storm, *Retired Senior High School Principal*

Lewis Webster, *Senior Director, Student Character & Leadership*

Mike Weller '66, *Head, Senior Division*

**CRITERIA FOR SELECTION
OF THE MILTON HERSHEY SCHOOL
ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR AWARD**

THE MILTON HERSHEY SCHOOL ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR AWARD

began in 1954. Individuals are selected because they have demonstrated humanitarianism and exemplary service to others, achieved distinguished service in their careers, and demonstrated high standards of achievement, both personally and professionally.



The alumnus serves as a role model for MHS students and as an example of achievement to which they can aspire. The individuals who have received this award over the past 57 years exemplify the numerous outstanding achievements of the School's graduates.



A committee composed of School staff and representatives of the MHS Alumni Association reviews nominations and recommends a list of candidates to the administration. This annual award is presented by the MHS President during the Commencement ceremony.

*In keeping with Milton and Catherine Hershey's Deed of Trust,
Milton Hershey School nurtures and educates children in social and
financial need to lead fulfilling and productive lives.*

— **MHS MISSION STATEMENT**

RECIPIENTS OF THE MILTON HERSHEY SCHOOL ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR AWARD

- 1954** Arthur R. Whiteman '27, *Finance*
1955 Edward C. Uhrich, M.D. '33,
Medicine-Pathology
1956 Joseph H. Hartshorn, Ph.D. '39,
Geology
1957 Joseph S. Gumpher '35, *Finance*
1958 Richard M. Light '41, *Electrical*
Engineering
1959 Col. Burdsall D. Miller '38,
Military Service-Air Force
1960 William P. Wagner '27,
Industrial Service Engineering
1961 Laurence W. Fredrick, Ph.D. '45,
Astronomy
1962 Kenneth V. Hatt '41, *Business*
1963 John T. Hart '36, *Personnel Management*
1964 William E. C. Dearden '40, *Marketing*
1965 Frank J. Brady, M.D. '37,
Medicine-Anesthesiology
1966 Charles F. Bofinger '43, *Advertising*
1967 William J. Geen, Esq. '47, *Law*
1968 Col. Edward J. Ruttly '47,
Military Service-Marine Corps
1969 Harry D. Snow '43, *Entertainment*
1970 Albert D. Rickmers '40, *Education*
1971 E. Hale Jones '50, *Public Relations*
1972 The Rev. Dr. Clark E. Hobby '47,
Religion
1973 Lewis W. Eckert '39,
Research and Development
1974 John M. Aichele '39, *Business Affairs-*
Education
1975 Archie L. Good, V.M.D. '38,
Veterinary Medicine
1976 James D. Dower Jr. '35, *Architecture*
1977 William H. Pugh '43,
Government-Diplomatic Service
1978 K. Thomas R. Davies, Ph.D. '53,
Theoretical Physics
1978 Richard W. Davies, Ph.D. '54,
Theoretical Physics
1979 David B. Bowman '46, *Law*
1980 E. Wallis Callahan '44, *Culinary Arts*
1981 Michael Kay '54, *Thoroughbred Racing*
1982 Charles G. Gebelein, Ph.D. '47,
Chemistry
1983 John F. Rineman '45,
Medical Service Administration
1984 William M. Duff '52,
Architecture-Building Construction
1985 William R. Fisher '50, *Education*
1986 James C. Mancuso, Ph.D. '45,
Education-Psychology
1987 J. Bruce McKinney '55, *Business*
Management
1988 James D. Hoeschele, Ph.D. '55,
Biomedical Research
1989 Adrian E. Taylor '47,
Advertising, Design, Journalism
1990 John A. O'Brien '61, *Psychology*
1991 Graham W. McIntyre '49,
U.S. Army-Education
1992 Otto R. Weber, M.D. '41,
Medicine-Humanitarian
1993 David Q. Voigt, Ph.D. '44, *Author-*
Educator
1994 David I. Bowser '57, *Building*
Construction
1995 A. John Gabig '53, *Corporate Law*
1996 A. LeRoy Baker, Ph.D. '57,
Scientist-Biochemistry
1997 Merrill Lynn, Ph.D. '48, *Research*
Scientist
1998 Ivan N. Dietrich, J.D. '42, *Law*
1999 Wayne W. Hepler '43, *Engineering-*
Aerospace
2000 James J. Finnegan '48, *Editorial Writer*
2001 George W. Cave '47,
CIA: Directorate of Operations
2002 Robert J. Brill '60, *Agribusiness*
Entrepreneur
2003 J. Barry Love, Ph.D. '51,
Teacher and Philosopher
2004 Brigadier General Richard C. Zilmer
'70, *Military Service-Marine Corps*
2005 Alan D. Krashesky '78, *Broadcasting*
2006 E. Michael Kenna '70,
Graphic Arts/Entrepreneur
2007 Thomas G. McClay '67,
Electrical Engineering/Entrepreneur
2008 Gerald P.H. Ballough, Ph.D. '76,
Professor/Neuroscientist
2009 Mary T. Pentel, M.D. '86, *Medicine-*
Dermatology
2010 Richard Purcell '61, *Manufacturing/*
Entrepreneur
2010 Milton Purcell '64, *Manufacturing/*
Entrepreneur
2011 Paul Taylor '53, *Logistics Engineering/*
Aerospace