



Give your parents a better view of retirement.

ROLLOVER to learn more!

LIFESTYLE 3:43 p.m. Monday, June 14, 2010

Text size:

# Fifty-two years later, prom night remained memorable

ShareThis Print E-mail

By H.M. Cauley  
For the AJC

Remember the name of your high school prom date? Marvalene Taylor hasn't forgotten hers, though it's been 52 years since she attended her prom at Cobb Avenue High School in Anniston, Ala.

Her date more than a half century ago was Booker Taylor, the same man with whom she's marking her 50th wedding anniversary this September.

Before the couple reached that fall milestone, they shared a flashback to the past by going together as a couple to the "senior" prom.

The 67-year-old Taylor and her husband relived their teenage years at a prom staged by Senior Connections, an organization that runs six senior centers and several programs around metro Atlanta. Taylor, an assistant manager at the group's south DeKalb center on Candler Road, had another memorable night at this gala event, held at Agnes Scott College on May 22.

"I did some things for myself that day; I got my hair done, my nails, the works," she said. "I wanted to look very special for the event."

Taylor's husband, a retired truck driver, 73, is confined to a wheelchair, but that didn't damper the couple's enthusiasm to attend another prom.

"He's always ready to go," Taylor said. "He didn't have to be talked into going. He kept telling everyone we met, 'I'm going to the prom with my wife.'"

The Taylors had a chauffeured ride, courtesy of the MARTA van that collected them from their home in Lithonia and returned them after the party. While at the event, they were treated to a three-course dinner and a live band that played a variety of music from rock to waltzes.

"One of the highlights was when they asked how many people had been together for 50 years," Taylor said. "Surprisingly, there were quite a few of us there."

Hazel Gonzalez, who manages Senior Connections' south DeKalb senior center, said more than 300 retirees attended this year's prom. It was the third year an event was held. This one was different, organized as a fundraiser that netted \$58,000 for the group's programs. The latest event was memorable for several reasons.

"It was a fabulous event, very elegant with a seated dinner, dancing, a silent auction and several elected officials as speakers," Gonzalez said. "The seniors here are still talking about it."

The Taylors' three grown children shared in the nostalgic moment with their parents. "They were so excited that they came over and took a lot of pictures," said Taylor with a laugh.

The outing also gave Taylor a chance to reflect on her first prom.

"It was a big night," she recalled. "It was exciting for both of us and I remember we really looked forward to it. We were really good friends then and we cared for each other. But we were young and didn't realize it would lead to what it's become."

Click and get breaking news and traffic alerts now



Today's news Tools and widgets

Reprints, Permissions Archives

Homes Jobs Cars Classifieds

Find Atlanta homes for sale

Select neighborhood

Advanced search »

Sell or rent your home

Now Hiring: Henry Medical Center  
Industry associations are valuable assets  
Tackle your fears about job searching  
Find a job »  
Find new and used cars in Atlanta



Atlanta International Auto Show opens 3/19!  
Which car suits you best?

Find a car »

Search Atlanta classifieds

Sell your car

Enter keyword

Search

Browse categories »

Post an ad

Most viewed stories

Top photo galleries

1. Double slaying in Gwinnett; bodies found in ditch
2. One of the twins accused of killing mother denied bail
3. 'Candy man' and 'candy lady' shot in DeKalb
4. Potentially deadly ice cream recalled
5. Delta mechanic killed at Minneapolis airport

More popular stories »

Put this on your site



U.S. ties England in World Cup



Faces of the World Cup



66th anniversary of D-Day



Cleaning up oil-soaked birds from the Gulf

More photo galleries »

Put this on your site

Get the story behind the headlines.

Do Good Locally »

Find nonprofit causes near you

Event - Party Like it's 1985!

Taylor came away from the evening with a notable insight that no amount of time could alter.

"It reminded me that proms are still pretty much the same," Taylor said. "They don't change very much."

"Milestones" covers significant events and times in the lives of metro Atlantans. Big or small, well-known or not, tell us of a Milestone we should write about. Send information to hm\_cauley@yahoo.com; call 404-514-6162; or mail to Milestones, c/o Jamila Robinson, 223 Perimeter Center Parkway N.E., Atlanta, GA 30346.

Event - Charity Barbecue & Fish Fry  
 Volunteer - Rally Foundation's Braves 50/50 Raffle!

[Find more causes »](#)

[List your nonprofit](#)

**Kudzu Services »**

Find the right people for the job

[Yard & Garden Guide: Find trusted service pros.](#)  
 Discounts on landscaping services.

**Inside AJC.COM**

**Peace in college football**



When Texas decided to remain in the Big 12, it put a quick end to the massive shift in conference realignment.

**Watching the World Cup?**



It's the world's most-popular sport, but it's always been second-tier here. Are you watching the tournament?

**Winning credit score**



Pay off your credit cards and check for errors on your report, and you too might raise your score 100 points.

**Southern Office Machines**

Office Copier Leasing. Call Us for More Info. Metro Atlanta Counties.  
[www.sominc.com](http://www.sominc.com)

**GMC Sierra Liquidation**

All Remaining '09 Models Must Sell! See Local GMC Sierra Sale Prices.  
[GMCsierra](http://GMCsierra.com)

**Atlanta Furniture Stores**

Find discount, designer & custom furniture stores in & near Atlanta.  
[yellowpages.com](http://yellowpages.com)

Ads by Yahoo!

**TELL US WHAT YOU THINK ABOUT THE SITE**

Send us your suggestions about this page.

Your e-mail address (will not be shared)

[Send Feedback](#)

**Subscribe »**

**The Atlanta Journal-Constitution**

**Customer Care »**

Vacation stops, manage subscriptions and more

**AJC SERVICES**

- [Staff contacts](#)
- [Reprints and permission](#)
- [Contests](#)
- [Submit event listings](#)
- [Send us news tips](#)
- [Careers at AJC](#)
- [Careers at Cox](#)
- [AJC Store](#)
- [AJC Conversation](#)

**SECTIONS**

- [News](#)
- [Sports](#)
- [Entertainment](#)
- [Travel](#)
- [Business](#)
- [Lifestyle](#)
- [Obituaries](#)

**OTHER EDITIONS**

- [Sign up for newsletters](#)
- [Sign up for ajcMobile](#)
- [RSS and Widgets](#)
- [Today's news | A1 image](#)
- [Archives](#)

**GUIDES**

- [Best of Atlanta](#)
- [School Guide](#)
- [Neighborhood Guide](#)
- [AJC in Education](#)
- [Atlanta Home Sales](#)
- [Atlanta Topics](#)
- [Travel Guide](#)
- [Atlanta Holiday Guide](#)

**ADVERTISING**

- [About our ads](#)
- [Advertise with us](#)
- [E-Sheets](#)
- AJC SITES**
- [ajc.com](#)
- [AccessAtlanta](#)
- [Atlanta Jobs](#)
- [Atlanta Homes](#)
- [Atlanta Apartments](#)
- [Atlanta Cars](#)
- [Atlanta Classifieds](#)
- [Mundo Hispánico](#)
- [BuenRato](#)
- [Cars on](#)
- [AutoTrader.com](#)