



Ralph Arthur Taylor

January 9, 1917 - July 27, 2012

Mr. Taylor, known since his childhood as "Tabo," was born on January 9, 1917, in Washington DC, and graduated from Central High School. Following high school, he was selected for admission to the Government Printing Office (GPO) Apprentice School, where he began his government career. He graduated from that School in 1940 and continued working for the GPO until World War II began.

During World War II, he served with the 13th Army Air Force in the Southwest Pacific, where he flew 55 combat missions as a radio operator on B-25 bombers. His awards include the Air Medal with oak-leaf cluster, Purple Heart, Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal, Philippine Liberation Medal, Philippine Republic Presidential Unit Citation, WWII Victory Medal, and 5 battle stars.

Following Tabo's discharge from the Air Force in May 1945, he returned to work at the GPO in Washington, D.C. In October of 1946, he was selected to help organize a hot-metal print shop in the Supreme Court. The function of this shop was to print the top-secret opinions of the justices in preparation for the announcement of those decisions from the bench.

In May of 1952, he became a member of the Court's Office of the Reporter of Decisions. He was subsequently appointed as the Court's first Publications Officer. His responsibilities included editing for publication all decisions of the

Court. In the late 1970s, he was instrumental in changing the Court's hot-metal printing operation to a computerized system. He retired from the Court in 1980, after more than 44 years of government service.

"Tabo" was a member of the Graham Road United Methodist Church in Falls Church, VA, a past president of the Government Printing Office Alumni Association, a life member of the Franklin Technical Society, and a member of the American Legion Post 177.

Survivors include his wife of 74 years, Mary Florence (nee Aylor) of Springfield, VA; four children, Ralph, Jr., of Washington, D.C.; J. Randolph, of Bethesda, MD; Ronald W., of Timonium, MD; and Denise T. O'Malley, of Fairfax, VA; 10 grandchildren; 2 cousins; and 3 nieces.

Tribute Wall



“ *Ralph Arthur Taylor*

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