



Gary Taylor

2014 Hall of Fame Inductee



Gary Taylor is a lifelong resident of Waycross, Georgia. He graduated Ware County High School in 1970 where he lettered in Basketball, Baseball, along with Track & Field. He served as Class Vice President, Key Club President, and Editor of the Annual Staff.

In the fall of 1970 Gary left Waycross to attend South Georgia College and was married to Patti in 1971. Gary has always said that he is convinced that his 43 years with Patti was a special blessing created by God just for him. In 1974 after Lana, the first of Gary's two children was born; Gary left South Georgia College to attend the University of Georgia. He and Patti returned to Waycross in 1975 where he became an agent with United Insurance Company of America. In 1978 Gary and Patti's second child, Gary Taylor Jr. was born. They have two grandchildren, Kelci Folsom (10), and Rhett Folsom (6) that were the gift of Lana's marriage to Russ Folsom. They attend most every University of Georgia Home Football game with Gary and Patti. As most of you know Gary considers his absence from a home game sinful.

While working with United Insurance Company, Gary was chosen among 6000 agents as the Rookie of the Year, the National Sales Agent of the Year, nominated to the Presidents Cup Team, promoted to Sales Manager and chosen as National Sales Manager of the Year.

In 1981 Gary met Sam Scott who owned Scott Industries in Waycross. Gary was recruited by Mr. Scott and Shea Jones to leave the insurance business and come join them in the Manufactured Housing Industry. As they say the rest is history. While working with Scott, Gary served on the Advisory Committee for State Representative Harry Dixon where he secured funding for lighting the Recreation Complex in Waycross.

In 1987 Gary accepted a position with Fleetwood Enterprises as a Sales Associate at their Alma Plant. He worked here for several years with Rick Sellers, Ken Newman, Gerald Sellers and Gary Hauder which most of all of you know. In 1990 he was promoted to Plant Sales Manager at the Fleetwood-Chadwick Plant in Douglas, Georgia. At this time Gary began 24 years of active involvement with the Georgia Manufactured Housing Association.

In 1996 Gary left Fleetwood to join Champion Homes to open a new facility, the first facility in Georgia dedicated to building exclusively 32 foot width product. Gary served as Sales Manager here until 2001 when he joined Clayton Homes in Waycross as their Sales Manager. He won the Clayton Homes Leadership Award here and was soon promoted to General Manager, a position he served in until his retirement.

Over the last 24 years Gary has served the GMHA in a selfless manner as Board Member, Executive Committee Member, Vice Chairman, Chairman of the Board and most recently as Political Action Committee Chairman. He has literally donated hundreds of hours of his free time to GMHA over the last 24 years. Gary's retirement plans continue to include time volunteering for the GMHA PAC Committee as well as allowing plenty of time to spend at his new beach condo in St. Augustine Florida.

Please remember to let Gary know how much you appreciate his service to your industry.