

construction site. I was sure it was an old picture of his father **Hal Clement** who was my roommate one year."

1938

Class Agent:
Henry W. Mellen

Edwin Hansen is "still helping my wife (at +85!) run her glass art gallery. Keeps us both young!"

1939

65th Reunion

Class Agent:
William P. Rowland

1940

Class Agent:
S. Prescott B. Clement

James B. Taylor III, a pioneer in business aviation, died January 17, 2003 of complications following treatment for liver cancer in Bridgeport Hospital, CT. He was 81. Mr. Taylor attended Pomfret for his freshman and sophomore year. Born in New York on Dec 14, 1921, he grew up in aviation, the son of **James B. Taylor, Jr. '17**, a Navy test pilot who was killed while testing a fighter plane in 1942. Mr. Taylor followed in the footsteps of his father by joining the Navy. He became the first cadet accepted for flight training in the U.S. Navy with no college education. He became a test pilot, flight instructor and carrier-based fighter pilot. After the war, he became involved in sales and marketing, where he made his mark with innovative sales techniques. To help sell the Dassault Falcon, he designed brochures on falconry, comparing the hunting bird's speed, range and landing ability with the attributes of the Falcon aircraft. Mr. Taylor convinced Cessna to rename its new FanJet 500 the Citation after the Triple Crown winner and sent out chrome-plated horseshoes for publicity. He also

Jim Taylor III '40

A feature article—Test Pilots By VADM Jerry Miller, USN (Ret.) in the Spring 2003 issue of *Wings of Gold*; *The Voice of Naval Aviation Yesterday Today and Tomorrow*—focused on James Blackstone Taylor, Jr. '17 and his son James B. Taylor III '40. The following are a few excerpts.

"Today's highly sophisticated flight test operations serve as a living tribute to the legacy of Jimmie Taylor. Although many test pilots have died early in their careers, Taylor's death was particularly poignant in view of his great contributions to aviation and the close friendships he had developed with so many aviation leaders."

"Despite his death, Taylor's contributions to aviation continued through the services of one of his sons, James Taylor III. Young Jim was more interested in athletics than academics, so he never attended college. However, in May 1942 he became the first Naval cadet accepted into flight training without a college education. His father, who was killed just five days later, swore him into service."



Jimmie Taylor, right swears in his son, James III, as an aviation cadet in 1942. Five days later, the father was killed on a test flight.

decided to sell the Citation as a package that included the plane, training for two pilots and a year of computerized maintenance scheduling. Both his concept of factory-direct sales and the service policies he pioneered have become industry standards. Mr. Taylor won numerous honors, including selection for Aviation Week and Space Technology's Laureates Hall of Fame, housed at the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C. He also won the NBAA Meritorious Service to Aviation Award, the National Aeronautic Association's Elder Statesman of Aviation Award and the Gathering Eagles Man of the Year Award. He has also been nominated

for the National Aviation Hall of Fame. Mr. Taylor leaves his wife of 55 years, Margaret Krout Taylor; sons, James B. Taylor, IV and wife Debra Gilbert Taylor of Stratford, CT, Ray K. Taylor and wife Ann of West Redding, CT, and W. Thorne Taylor of Westport, CT; daughter, Jayne A. Taylor of Steamboat Springs, CO; grandchildren, Thatcher, Jared, Gavin and David Taylor; sisters, Aileen Butler of Putney, VT and Lydia Elliott of San Diego, CA. A brother, **William '39**, died in the fall of the year he graduated from Pomfret. We are sorry to relay the very sad news that **Ellie Wheeler** has died only two months after her husband, **Charlie's** death in December. Mrs.

Wheeler was a faithful supporter of the School in her own right and will be missed by all who knew her. Eleanor Bissell Wheeler attended The Park School and was a graduate of Miss Porter's School in Farmington, CT. Donations in her memory may be made to The Washington National Cathedral, Wisconsin and Mass Avenues, Washington, DC.

1941

Class Agent:
John B. Russell, Jr.

Edward (Gus 11) Wilson writes, "Life goes on pretty much as ever. The years 2002/2003 will see just about all the survivors of the class of '41 in the Octogenarian Circle. When I think about it, I find it incredible that I am 80, although when I use my body and not my mind, I am left in no doubt of the truth of the matter. Apart from getting seriously deafer, I am really in very good shape and manage to do most of the things I want to do or that my wife, Elizabeth, goads me into doing. Our two 'children' are both now in their fifties and our daughter, Vicky, the elder of the two, has provided us with two grandchildren." As reported in the Fall 2002 *Bulletin*, Gus continues to work on writing the history of his WWII regiment, due out this spring.

1942

Class Agent:
Theodore F. Babbitt

Ted Babbitt reports, "As **Newie Garfield** wrote you all last June, I am now learning the ropes as class agent and hope that you all will continue to support the School and provide me with news of your activities. Sadly, my first duty is to inform you of Newie's death on February 12, 2003. There was a celebration of Newie's life on July 12, 2003 in Blue Hill, Maine where he had lived since 1994. None of us were able to celebrate the sixtieth anniversary of our graduation in May 2002, although we did have a few classmates who were planning to attend the reunion. But by the time the date rolled around our numbers had dwindled