

Taft Grad Follows in Father's Footsteps



Recently cited over a CBS nationwide hook-up was JAMES B. TAYLOR, III (left), former Taft school student and his late father, LIEUT. COMDR. JAMES B. TAYLOR, JR. (right). Photo shows young Taylor being congratulated on his entrance into the Navy (aviation section) last May by his father the same week the latter was killed in a plane crash near Woodbury, N. J.

Young Taylor's brother David who is a senior at Taft this year is also planning to go into aviation.

Taft School Graduate Cited in Broadcast

James B. Taylor Trains As Aviator, Despite Father's Death

Many Waterburians and Watertown residents as well as a host of others throughout the nation heard the nationwide CBS broadcast Sunday night entitled "They Live Forever," in which a Taft school graduate, James B. Taylor, 3d, was lauded for his war effort and in which Taylor himself spoke concerning his aviation training in the Navy where he is now taking advanced flying training at a Texas flying school.

Taylor's father, Lieut. Comdr. James B. Taylor, Jr., was killed on May 5 when his plane plunged 500 feet and crashed in a marsh at Woodbury, N. J. The Navy announced he was on routine flight. A naval aviator during World War I, young Taylor's father retired from the service after the war and interested himself in the manufacture of planes. He also did a good deal of test piloting, flying over 500 models of new planes without ever having to bail out.

Before Pearl Harbor he was called back into active service as a lieutenant commander. As a test pilot in 1937 he dive tested a low wing Seversky all Navy plane, reaching an estimated 600 miles an hour in a power dive of 15,000 feet.

The younger Taylor, Taft school graduate, class of 1940, was a three-letter man; captain of the football team and monitor at the school.

Taylor's primary interest in life aside from school athletics was aviation. He wanted to follow his father in naval aviation, but the Navy rule requiring two years of college before training as a pilot prevented his going in at that time. He decided to get into aviation by a shorter route than college and took a job in the Grumman airplane factory on Long Island. When the Navy last spring changed its ruling to allow graduates of high schools and preparatory schools to train as pilots, Taylor joined up immediately and was the first cadet accepted by the Navy under the new ruling. After primary training at Chapel Hill, N. C., he was sent to Texas where he is now getting advanced training.

His younger brother David is a senior at Taft this year and also plans to go into aviation.

\$400 Court Action