

**Obituary for Nancy Hawkins Taylor  
(first wife of Noah Taylor)  
July 13,1876**

Nancy Hawkins was the first wife of Noah Taylor. She and Noah lived in Friendship, TN. After Nancy became ill, Noah and Nancy spent time in Florida to try to improve her health. She died there in 1876.

The obituary on the page following was apparently written at the time of her death and in Florida. Since we only have the clipping, we don't know the exact date or the newspaper. I obtained this courtesy of Erma Milliken, granddaughter of Noah by his second wife Cordelia Cheek. It was found in Noah's family bible in March 2002 while she was removing loose pages from the bible to provide copies to me

This obituary is very important because it confirms research and family oral traditions. It confirms who her parents were and that she came to Florida multiple times for her health.

**Miller Taylor**  
**943 W. Outer Drive**  
**Oak Ridge, TN 37830**  
[miller@wwtaylor.org](mailto:miller@wwtaylor.org)

Died, of Consumption, in Columbia county, Fla., July 13th, 1876, Mrs. NANCY TAYLOR, daughter of Rev. P. W. Hawkins, of Friendship, Tenn., and sister of Rev. J. Hawkins, aged 45 years.

She united with St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran church, Newberry, S. C., at the age of about 12 or 13 years. Moved to Tennessee in 1847 with her father Rev. P. W. Hawkins; was married to Mr Noah Taylor, October 1st 1850. There being no Lutheran Church in the neighborhood where she lived, she united with the M. E. Church, from which she has doubtless passed to the church of the first born in heaven. Mrs. Taylor had been twice to Florida to improve her health. Last winter she with her husband and family came down to remain, but disease had done its work, and neither climate nor medical skill could longer resist the fiat of God, "Dust thou art and unto dust shalt thou return." She has left a kind husband and five children to mourn her loss, but they have the assurance that their loss is her eternal gain. I was with her a short time before her death; her faith was firm; she said she had no hope of relief from suffering in this world, and prayed that the Lord would take her to the "rest that remains to the people of God. Her prayers have been answered, and she now rests with three little children who preceded her to the land of rest; thus four have crossed over, and six are on this side "the river." The Lord was very gracious to her in giving her a perfectly sound mind to the last. Her dying request was that her funeral be preached in Tennessee, and here on the same day from the same text, Ps. xxx: 5-6. She had been for six years a member of the Odd Fellow Society. Write, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth; yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labor and their works do follow them." S. W. BEDENBAUGH.