

Her beloved novel, "Bridge to Terabithia," grew out of the accidental death of her son David's close friend at age 8. In "Stories of my Life," Paterson discloses that confronting a different death—her own—made writing "Terabithia" a particular challenge.

A LOVE STORY

The story of a strong and loving marriage runs through Paterson's new book, a partnership that formed in a matter of months. When John Paterson proposed to Katherine Womeldorf, he made a promise to always help and support her.

"John said that he knew I was a strong woman with many gifts, and he wanted to promise me that he would never stand in the way of my exercising those gifts," Paterson writes in her new book.

"It was very memorable," Paterson said of the proposal, talking about the conversation more than half a century later.

"I had no idea that I was going to be a writer," she said. "I had no idea what I was going to do. John thought I was going to be something."

John Paterson was a Presbyterian minister who collected art, played tennis and co-wrote books with his wife. His death at age 80 in September, 2013, was the central aspect of the "most extraordinary" story of Paterson's life, she wrote.

The experience, including conversations with "compassionate and honest doctors," suggested to the Patersons that a person needn't fight death with the full arsenal of modern medicine, Paterson said. John Paterson sought the advice of his wife, and chose to die at home.

"In our society we have to come to it," Paterson said. "Death is not the enemy."

The artist that John Paterson saw in his future wife is still at work. Paterson is writing a play with a friend, and awaiting the 2015 release of the film adaptation of "The Great Gilly Hopkins." The screenplay was written by her son David Paterson.

"I had a good life," Paterson said. "Let's face it."

TRIBUTE TO DR. JIM TAYLOR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Jim Taylor as he ends his 35-year stint as president of the University of the Cumberland. Dr. Taylor is an educator of the highest degree and deserves the praise of this body for his unremitting devotion to his students and his community.

When Dr. Taylor retired last month, he ended the longest tenure as president of any college or university in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. He led the university for so long, however, because he continued to get results from his students and contribute positively to his community—year after year.

Over the course of his tenure, enrollment in the school rose from 1,885 to over 5,500, the endowment rose from \$6 million to \$79 million, and numerous campus renovations were made including the construction of hundreds of handicap access ramps.

Dr. Taylor's impact did not stop at the boundaries of campus, however. He worked tirelessly to better his community—raising money for scholarships for Appalachian students and over-seeing clothing and food drives for area families.

For now, Dr. Taylor and his wife of 46 years, Dinah Louise Taylor, will move

to their home in Florida. However, Dr. Taylor could not separate himself from the institution for which he had worked for so long in one fell swoop. He will remain involved with the university in his new position of chancellor, where he will help with fundraising and provide counsel to his successor in order to provide for a smooth transition.

Dr. Jim Taylor's life of service to his students and his community provide a shining example of excellence for us all. Therefore, I ask that my U.S. Senate colleagues join me in honoring this exemplary citizen.

The Times-Tribune of Whitley County, KY, recently published an article detailing the life and career of Dr. Jim Taylor. I ask unanimous consent that the full article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD as follows:

[From the Times-Tribune, Oct. 8, 2014]

THE ENDING OF AN ERA: UNIVERSITY OF THE CUMBERLANDS PRESIDENT TO RETIRE

(By Kristina Smith)

Boxes filled the large rectangular room where Dr. James Harold Taylor usually sat and carried out his day-to-day business as president of the University of the Cumberland.

Each box was marked with bold, white letters—"mover."

Until Oct. 16, that's exactly what Taylor will be doing—moving.

Taylor's 35 years as president comes to an end next week as he officially retires and Dr. Larry Cockrum takes over the top position. His retirement also means the end of the longest tenure of a Kentucky college or university president.

So for now, Taylor prepares to move to his Florida residence with his wife of 46 years, Dinah Louise Taylor.

"I'm telling everybody goodbye and expressing my appreciation," Taylor said of his last week as president. "This job is too big for one working alone. It takes a team, and we have a great one here. We have great faculty, staff and students."

Taylor and his team have molded the university into the largest private college or university in the state of Kentucky during his time as president.

"We're also the only Baptist university in the state," Taylor quickly pointed out. "Well, except for Clear Creek Bible School."

Taylor is proud of the university and the over 5,000 students he is leaving behind. He mentions that he is especially happy with the developing physician's assistant program, nursing program and health programs.

However, he is most proud of the impact within the community that he leaves behind.

"What I'm pleased about is that we've been able to build 145 homes for people. Distributed tons of food and clothing. We've built hundreds of handicap access ramps, done insulation projects, roofing. We have a toy program for kids at Christmas who normally wouldn't get toys. Then we have Thanksgiving, where we do vouchers for people," Taylor said.

The list goes on and on. "I've had a lot of fun," Taylor said with a grin.

But Taylor isn't boasting on his accomplishments. Once again, he points to the team of people surrounding him.

"When I'm talking about this, I'm just talking about how I hire smart people who

are really good," Taylor said. "And I just get out of their way and let them work."

Running a university that spans over 100 acres is a lot of work, and Taylor acknowledges that his predecessor will have no easy task before him.

"This school is so much bigger than people think," Taylor said. "See, our operating budget is \$50 million a year. The fiscal plan here is around \$200 million. You have to maintain all of it. So we raise probably around \$300 million, and spend around \$305 million. It takes a lot to keep it going."

So Taylor will provide some help to Cockrum going forward. He hopes to help make the transition as smooth as possible.

For about a week of every month, Taylor will assist in raising money and identifying friends for the college as chancellor.

"No one does anything alone. It takes many heads, hearts and hands," Taylor said. "Dr. Cockrum will take us to stellar heights and allow us to do things we've never done before."

Taylor believes that choosing Cockrum to follow in his steps will help the university continue to flourish after he's left campus and moved to the Sunshine State. He notes that Cockrum has been with the university for nearly a decade, and has seen firsthand the work Cockrum is capable of.

"You know, this profession is filled with talkers. But, he delivers. He's about the best I've seen," Taylor said of Cockrum. "I feel like all we've done is built the foundation and he's going to let this rocket ship fly."

While Cockrum is preparing to blast off into his new presidential role, Taylor will take the time to ponder upon his years with the university.

"It's time for relaxation and reflection," Taylor said. "I'm grateful for my wife who has allowed me to do what needed to be done in terms of promoting the institution. It's fulfilled this opportunity to serve. It's been a blessing. It's fulfilled our lifelong dreams. Few people get to live out their dreams—I was fortunate to be able to do that."

Taylor has already thought of a few words of advice to the university he leaves behind, though.

"You have to have a moral compass, a true north. I think the Christian faith can give you that," Taylor said. "Oh, and always measure twice, but cut once."

So Taylor will finish packing papers, photos and his personal belongings into the cardboard boxes that are piled in his office. But he will be back to visit; he's not ready to leave Williamsburg completely behind.

"I'll come back some because our son is buried here, and we'll have a home here," Taylor said. "But we'll come in for the holidays and things like that. We'll come in for some ball games."

As a final note, Taylor quotes a line of Shakespeare to sum up his time with the university and his pending retirement.

"The crown rests heavy on the head of the king," Taylor said.

RECOGNIZING MARK PRATER

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to Mark Prater, deputy staff director and chief tax counsel for the minority staff of the Senate Finance Committee.

Later this week, the Tax Foundation will award Mark their Exemplar of Excellence in Public Service Award for his many years of service on the Finance Committee. He will be only the second congressional staffer to be honored by the Tax Foundation in their 77-year history. And, I can say without