

The Taylor Family-- One of Rib Lakes pioneer families. Mr. and Mrs. Ed Gamoll (the step-parents of J.A. Taylor) came to R.L. in 1890, in a farm wagon drawn by a team of horses. Gamoll started a hardware store in the building now occupied by Nancy's Family store. <sup>1990</sup> In 1900 the J.A. Taylors followed the Gamolls to R.L., where they opened a new hardware store in the building now occupied by the new music store. (formerly Ed Prien's and then Duane Warner's Gamble store. Later it was Schubert's True Value. The Taylors sold merchandise including shelf hardware, building supplies, farm impliments, stoves, pumps, sleighs, buggies and steam/gas engines.

The Taylors had six children. Art, Elmer, Myrtle, Viola, Everett and Anita. In 1924 J.A. Taylor bought the Poole undertaking and furniture business. The Poole building was located on the site of the present village hall. Taylor, in turn, traded ~~it for~~ the lot for one adjacent to his hardware store. The property held the original main st. village hall, which was razed in 1979.

The first Taylor to become a mortician was Art, who took a correspondence course in embalming and later received his license. He later moved to Merrill, established a business and went on to become the president of the National Funeral Directors Association. Elmer followed in his brothers footsteps and eventually bought the funeral home from his father, in 1937. The elder Taylor continued to operate the hardware store until 1937 when the business was sold to Ed Prien. In that same year Elmer converted the former Getchel family residence into a funeral home. During 1955 Taylor bought the Gustofson Lbr. Co. and moved the business operation to the building formerly occupied by Bros. Two Later Conesco, now Eckman. When Taylor decided to retire in 1959, he sold the lumber co. to Stewart Lbr. Co. In 1963 the funeral business was sold to Kenneth Mannel. When he retired and went into the bulk oil tank business, his son-in-law, Jim Dallman took over the business, after attending a school of funeral directing.

**EVERETT BECAME A FUNERAL DIRECTOR AT WIS, RAPIDS.**