



Travers O. Mayhew was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on April 5, 1929. An early and significant influence for Travers was his mother. After his parents divorced when he was 6, Travers' mother worked outside of the home all her life, through the Depression and on to support Travers and his older sister, Nancy. They gained confidence and strength because they were forced to take care of themselves while their mom worked long hours. Travers graduated from Riverside High School, and joined the Army, taking advantage of the GI bill to pay for college.

Travers attended the University of Wisconsin, Madison. He joined Kappa Sigma and the ROTC, and then was required to serve two years in the Army after graduation. He spent 14 months in the Army, at Fort Eustis and in Trieste, Italy. He landed a job in the controller's office under an officer who loved the Army and became a great inspiration and influencer to Travers.

Next door in the Adjutant General's office worked a nice, young woman named Janet Davis. Janet and Travers were married after he was discharged from the Army. Travers first worked with DuPont in Wilmington, Delaware, and then after a couple years and the birth of their first daughter, Travers went to work for A.O. Smith in Milwaukee, working in the Systems and Procedures office designing computer applications. Their second child, Dan, was born in Milwaukee.

Janet was raised in Newport News, Virginia. Her father had started a tugboat and barge business and bought a small boat repair yard. In 1958, Janet's dad asked Travers to come to Virginia to help run the businesses. With an 8-week-old, Travers and Janet moved back to her hometown. With his

father-in-law, Captain RK Davis, and Travers' brother-in-law, they ran the two businesses, with Travers focusing on boat repair. In 1970 the captain sold the business to Travers. Then Travers bought a 40-ton capacity crane and started doing work for the Army, Navy, and Coast Guard. In the early 80s Interstate 664 construction forced Travers to close his yard. He got funding to build a new one 8 months later, with a 250-ton capacity crane. Now they were able to haul out larger craft up to 150'.

In 1996, Travers retired and sold the yard to the former CEO of Horne Brothers. Janet and Travers lived in a home on the shore of the Poquoson River in Dare. After the destruction of Hurricane Isabel, the couple decided to move to the Arbors in 2004, and then when Janet needed additional care, they chose to move to The Chesapeake in 2007. Janet passed away in 2011, after being lovingly cared for in health care for over a year.

An active part of the community at The Chesapeake, Travers regularly joins his neighbors on trips to interesting places, the Lunch Bunch, and being a member of the Resident Council, serving as president from 2017-2019. He's also served on several standing committees and currently participates on the Resident Advisory and Resident Engagement committees. Travers has coordinated over 30 mystery bus day trips for the residents over the years and serves as the official tour guide. He even enjoys the 195 haircuts he's received in the Beauty Salon.

His engagement at The Chesapeake stems from his exposure of governance during his career. He served 8 years on the Board of Directors for the Oyster Point Development Company. He was instrumental in forming the Virginia Association of Marine Industries (VAMC). He also served on the Governor's Boating Advisory Committee for 8 years, as well as the Board of Directors of the Ship Repair Committee for the American Waterways Conference.

The Chesapeake provides him the drive and spirit to continue to be engaged, and he encourages others in the community to do the same. His philosophy for business and for life was "always take the high road and the profits will follow."