



Who Was Dick Taylor?

At many of UOAA's National Conferences, we've presented an award for "Outstanding ASG Website" named in honor of Dick Taylor. Dick Taylor was an early President of the [St. Paul Minnesota Ostomy Association](#). He was also a pioneer in using the World Wide Web to publicize his ostomy support group. In November 1996, Dick registered the domain name "ostomy.org" and began using it for his group's website. Dick maintained that website for more than 12 years. During that period, he also attempted to broaden his website's scope beyond his own St. Paul group, referring to it at times using the names "Ostomy Resources Minnesota" and "Ostomy Resources WorldWide."

Dick passed away in 2009, still holding the "ostomy.org" domain name. Then, to prevent that domain name from falling into the wrong hands, Dick's heirs transferred it to UOAA. In July 2010, we moved our website from the "uoaa.org" domain, where it had been originally, to "ostomy.org" where it is now. (We still use the "uoaa.org" domain for our [Discussion Board](#).) We established an award in Dick Taylor's name, presented for the first time at the 2011 UOAA Conference in Reno NV.

We have preserved some pages that were on Dick Taylor's website before we moved our website to "ostomy.org" in 2010. Dick was a close friend to **Archie Vinitzky**, who was a major figure in the founding of both UOA (the United Ostomy Association, UOAA's predecessor) and IOA (the [International Ostomy Association](#)). When Archie passed away in 1995, Dick created a tribute to Archie, which he then always regarded as the centerpiece of his website. These pages illustrate a topic that Dick was passionate about, and also provide a fascinating glimpse into the early history of ostomy organizations.

[See Dick Taylor's Tribute to Archie Vinitzky](#)