



## Mr. Oliver Lewis Perry

July 12, 1919 - February 25, 2019

Oliver Perry a High River Legend passed away peacefully on February 25, 2019 in High River at the age of 99 years. Oliver was born on July 12, 1919 in Kamloops, B.C. to parents Harold and Lydia Perry. He was raised in Kamloops, Elnora and Banff, along with his sister Rose and brother Dallas, before settling in High River where he called home for 80+ years.

Oliver was a man of experience from life guarding on the Highwood River to driving bus on Vancouver Island during WWII, welding for the MD of the Foothills and fighting fires in High River, just to name a few. All which made for his unique story telling ability. Oliver was a genuine man full of integrity, hard work, kindness, and determination! His handshake was his word and the twinkle in his eye said it all.

Oliver was a large part of the history of High River. He drove the first fire truck in the town of High River and was the first paid Fire Chief starting in 1975 for the next decade, volunteering many years prior to that role. Oliver was recognized during the Project 47 initiative in 2017 with the restoration of his 1947 fire truck. He was part of the growth and improvement of the community of High River from early on and his legacy will live on!

Oliver is survived by his extended family and many friends. Oliver was predeceased by his parents Harold (1963) and Lydia (1982); loving wife Mildred (2008); sister Rose (2009) and brother Dallas (2011).

The town of High River has lost a true hero. He would want to say “thank you kindly” for all the support given to him over the years. A special thank you to all the caring and compassionate doctors and nurses from the High River Hospital, who took such great care of Oliver.

A Celebration of Oliver’s life will be held Saturday, April 13, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. at the Highwood Golf & Country Club (400 - 7th Street NW), High River, AB.

Oliver loved children, in lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Oliver's memory to the Alberta's Children's Hospital, 28 Oki Drive NW, Calgary, Alberta, T3B 6A8.

Caring for the family is Lyle Reeves Funerals of High River (Craig Snodgrass)  
403.652.4242.

# Events

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**APR** **Celebration of Life Service** 01:00PM

**13**

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Highwood Golf & Country Club

400 7th Street NW, High River, AB, CA

# Comments

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“ I can't count the number of times Oliver came into Highwood Printing to have photos and newspaper articles copied. I loved hearing the stories behind the photos. Many were old black and whites from long ago. He was so young and quite handsome. I had to bite my tongue when he would come into the shop on a cold winter's day with his jacket undone and his shirt unbuttoned at the top. He was a mix of delight and no-nonsense. The Kraft Carmels would pile up if he came in a few times in a week, but no way would he take no for an answer if we said we had enough. He must have a most interesting scrapbook somewhere. What a treasure he was and what a treasure the memories of this dear man will be to all who loved him and knew him.

**Darlene Goodwin** - April 13, 2019 at 02:49 PM

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“ Not a day goes by that I don't think of my dear friend Oliver. He was a wonderful friend and he did so many lovely things for me. Of course he also loved to get one up on me, and this was a never ending source of amusing competition between us for ten years. Oliver knew how to be a great friend, and he phoned me regularly, inquired about my family, remembered all my news, and did kind things for me. He leaves a giant hole in my life, but I will get even with him one day. Forever

**Janny Freeze** - April 07, 2019 at 01:12 PM

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“ From the Southfork family



**Raylene Perry** - March 15, 2019 at 02:36 PM

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“ Harry is waiting so the two of you can take care of any fires up above. Thanks for always keeping in touch. ~ Helena Haynes



**Helen** - March 10, 2019 at 11:32 PM

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“ Oliver was a kind and caring man who left many wonderful memories with all who crossed his path. Rest peacefully Oliver , you will be missed by many!

**John and Deb Gross** - March 09, 2019 at 07:29 PM

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“ Oliver has been in my life since I was a little girl growing up in High River, he was a special person, friend, grandpa to Taylor. Always making sure that we were Ok after the passing of my father. The stories you shared of my dad (Don Blair), Belf Quon, yourself and the shenanigans I will miss dearly. Your kind heart and generosity went above and beyond.....a special person. When needing parts or something fixed you delivered, but never accepting payment for a job well done that's just who you were. My many thanks for all you did for myself and my family. We will miss you dearly, may you rest in peace my friend.



**Tracey Wilson** - March 08, 2019 at 03:31 PM

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“ I first meet Oliver 22 yrs ago  
We would sit down and have a drink (coffee) and he would talk about his life, I loved the history lessons, got a laugh from some of his antics when he was young  
We moved a few yrs ago and I've missed his caramels



Jackie Johnson - March 06, 2019 at 08:16 PM

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“ There was no one like Oliver Perry. Always willing, ready and able to help/assist his fellow man.  
I met Oliver in 1966. My husband and I were stationed in High River with the RCMP. The day the transfer took place, Oliver was there to greet and welcome the new member and his family.  
We used have lunch or a coffee at the good old Greyhound Bus Stop Cafe where Shoppers Drug is today. I'll miss your smile. RIP Oliver. 🦋



Lynne Haines - March 06, 2019 at 06:32 PM

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“ Correction: the old skating rink was located at the Ranchland Mall, not the TD Bank as I said in my condolences.

Phyllis Pope - March 06, 2019 at 12:30 PM

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“ High River has lost yet One more "Colorful" character. I just know that he is now up yonder catching up with many, many people that he helped and worked with over the years. Rest well Oliver.

**Connie L. Jewell** - March 05, 2019 at 03:01 PM

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“ RIP My friend You will be missed T J Glenn

**T. JOY Glenn** - March 04, 2019 at 08:43 PM

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“ My condolences, we have lost a very special person. I will miss you 'twinkle-toes'



**Gayle Wolf** - March 04, 2019 at 01:33 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



**Lee Hodges** - March 04, 2019 at 09:59 AM



“ High River's Legend Oliver will be missed He was always fixing something for someone Here he is doing a repair for a friend at 98

**Lee Hodges** - March 04, 2019 at 11:04 AM

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“ My sincere condolences to the family of Oliver. He was such a special person, one of few. Oliver knew the meaning of being a volunteer as being a part of a community. I remember when he and Tom Robertson single handedly (with a few tots of rum ) laid the pipes for the first artificial ice in the old skating rink, (where the TD Bank is now). He was instrumental in organizing the Five-Car Bingo that was held to pay for it. Oliver was so knowledgeable about the Floods and some of HR's history and he was always happiest when cheerfully regaling stories of the area. He was an exceptionally talented welder, being able to fix things no one else could. It was amazing the great understanding of teenagers that he had and many times he helped them when they got into difficulties. May you rest in peace old friend. You will be missed. My many thanks for all you did for me and my family. Phyllis Pope.

**Phyllis (Robertson) Pope** - March 03, 2019 at 03:33 PM

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“ My sincere condolences to Oliver's family and many friends. He really was a community legend and I remember so many times talking with my mom (Rose) about bumping into him in town. He will be greatly missed and so fondly remembered by many!

**Carla Mitton** - March 03, 2019 at 02:33 AM

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“ Donna Tanner lit a candle in memory of Mr. Oliver Lewis Perry



**donna tanner** - March 02, 2019 at 10:11 PM

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“ Herb and I would like to send our condolences to Oliver's family. This town has lost one of its most inspiring characters. The stories, the advice, his often self-deprecating sense of humour, "I don't remember much, you know, I have alzheimers"... NOT! Wow, we are really going to miss him. He must have owned shares in the caramels candies company because it sounds like he gave them to everyone, everywhere. And his pens. I loved that he celebrated each precious year and his enthusiasm to see more by getting them made. We have a few in our collection. And I really miss not hearing his horn beep as he drove by the gallery every day. It was his way of saying "Hi", whether he actually saw me or not. Oliver was an icon and did so many wonderful things for this town. Whenever I see the sign up in front of the entrance to George Lane Park I'll give him a nod! Rest in Peace dear Oliver.....

Annie Froese - March 02, 2019 at 04:42 PM

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“ Condolences to the Perry family,  
Many memories of Ollie....from my few years on the volunteer fire department; respecting his dedication, knowledge and support.... to caramels for our boys while leading them through the rabbit trails in his shop..... to giving Barb, while she was in hospital, 2 caramels on his first visit and then a box of Rosebuds on his next visit ! We will remember Ollie forever with a special place in our hearts.  
High River and community have lost one of their true and dedicated supporters.  
RIP Ollie.  
Gerry and Barb

Gerry and Barb Coakwell - March 02, 2019 at 02:51 PM

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“ Shari Porteous lit a candle in memory of Mr. Oliver Lewis Perry



Shari Porteous - March 02, 2019 at 02:47 PM

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“ Stacey Whalley lit a candle in memory of Mr. Oliver Lewis Perry



**Stacey Whalley** - March 02, 2019 at 01:34 PM

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“ Ron & Joy Miller lit a candle in memory of Mr. Oliver Lewis Perry



**Ron & Joy Miller** - March 02, 2019 at 10:54 AM

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“ Tania VanderPloeg (Blondie) lit a candle in memory of Mr. Oliver Lewis Perry



**Tania VanderPloeg (Blondie)** - March 02, 2019 at 01:50 AM

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“ Janny Freeze lit a candle in memory of Mr. Oliver Lewis Perry



**Janny Freeze** - March 01, 2019 at 11:24 PM

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“ Karen Hunter lit a candle in memory of Mr. Oliver Lewis Perry



**Karen Hunter** - March 01, 2019 at 10:31 PM

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“ It's the end of an era. He will be missed by many. The Cowling girls Lorraine, Connie, Carla and Chris.



**Lorraine hjalte** - March 01, 2019 at 08:40 PM

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“ Eunice Schmuland lit a candle in memory of Mr. Oliver Lewis Perry



**Eunice Schmuland** - March 01, 2019 at 11:07 AM

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“ Dorine Moore lit a candle in memory of Mr. Oliver Lewis Perry



**Dorine Moore** - February 28, 2019 at 08:01 PM

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“ Rosemary Derbecker lit a candle in memory of Mr. Oliver Lewis Perry



**Rosemary Derbecker** - February 28, 2019 at 03:31 PM

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“ Stacey Morasch lit a candle in memory of Mr. Oliver Lewis Perry



**Stacey Morasch** - February 27, 2019 at 11:41 PM

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“ We are like everyone else on this page thinking we were his special friends. We will always remember his help on any projects our family came up with. His good advice was there when we needed it. Rest in peace dear friend.

Lyle & Doreen Needham & family

**Doreen and Lyle Needham** - February 27, 2019 at 11:25 PM

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“ I remember Oliver coming in to my work place with a caramel for all staff, sometimes two and always with a smile. Every birthday was a milestone in his journey to 100.

**Linda Hiller** - February 27, 2019 at 08:54 PM

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“ Oliver you will be missed by all who had the honour of knowing you. We have so many great memories with Oliver at the Fire Hall and he helped Len to succeed in his Fire career for many years. He was so patient when Cody wanted to hang out at the hall!!! He also liked some of his food burnt so I would purposely burn a pan of chocolate chip cookies and Cody would take over to Oliver at the hall. He had a wealth of knowledge and shared so much of it. Thanks Oliver  
Len and Pat Zebedee and family



**Pat Zebedee** - February 27, 2019 at 08:21 PM

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“ He told me lots of history about the area and how his family members participated in the Priddis and Millarville Fair. He contacted us yearly to remind us of our responsibilities to the Fair and thereby to the community... always with warmth and humour. He supported us financially and he encouraged us in writing. Will always remember him. God bless.

**Donna Kendall** - February 27, 2019 at 07:23 PM

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“ Oliver lived across the street from my grandparents when I was growing up. Many memories of stories told and words of wisdom. I admired his no nonsense ways and ability "MacGyver" anything.

**Jerry Howe** - February 27, 2019 at 04:34 PM

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“ Oliver was one of a kind. I was lucky enough to spend a lot of time at the fire hall as a young person and enjoyed Oliver's storytelling. High River has lost a true character.



**Cathy Couey** - February 27, 2019 at 03:14 PM

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“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



**Pam Hammond** - February 27, 2019 at 02:06 PM

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“ Light a candle for Oliver a very good friend and neighbor



**Dorothy Way** - February 27, 2019 at 01:23 PM

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“ Suzanne Fournie lit a candle in memory of Mr. Oliver Lewis Perry



**Suzanne Fournie** - February 27, 2019 at 12:10 PM

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“ Oliver gave me my pen at Rotary Park when the old restored fire truck was introduced. It is always in my purse and I show it often. Rest at last dear man. Donna Downey

**Donna Downey** - February 27, 2019 at 11:15 AM

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“ High River has lost a Legend, and I am going to Miss an Amazing Man who I respected and Looked up to for Many Years. He once told me he had never been sick because he had never taken any kind of pill. That advice certainly proved a long life for him. I am betting he's upset he didn't see 100.



**Pam Hammond** - February 27, 2019 at 10:18 AM

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“ Dennis Ochs lit a candle in memory of Mr. Oliver Lewis Perry



**Dennis Ochs** - February 27, 2019 at 10:08 AM

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“ " REST IN PEACE OLLIE"

from an "OLD" Ex Firemans wife.

Maxine Edwards



**Maxine Edwards** - February 27, 2019 at 09:44 AM

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“ Mr. Perry, you were such an integral part of all things High River. My condolences to the Perry family.



**Sherry Whitford** - February 27, 2019 at 09:03 AM

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“ Marcia Ayrey lit a candle in memory of Mr. Oliver Lewis Perry



**Marcia Ayrey** - February 27, 2019 at 08:53 AM

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“ As a kid, Oliver always has a caramel and a story when I would come around to visit. When I grew up, that turned into a glass of rum and even better stories. Thank you Mr Perry for all the wonderful memories. You will be so missed.

**Hannah Scott** - February 27, 2019 at 02:17 AM

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“ This one gets me. Oliver was a true High River legend. I feel grateful to have known him. I will always remember our visits at the coffee shop or hearing his amazing life stories at the South Fork. He had a sparkle in his eye's. Condolences to the rest of his friends and family. He touched many lives.

**Alyshia-Grace Hobday** - February 27, 2019 at 01:53 AM

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“ D & Dewane Nelson sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Oliver Lewis Perry



D & Dewane Nelson - February 27, 2019 at 12:58 AM

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“ Such an amazing man to sit with and share stories. Much love all those who were touched by him.  
Joylaine Graves and family

Joylaine Graves - February 27, 2019 at 12:38 AM

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“ Oliver was truly one of a kind and High River will not be the same without him. Oh the stories! What a life he lived. Still have some caramels somewhere - always saved them. Condolences to his family and everyone whose lives he touched.



Irene Kerr - February 26, 2019 at 11:42 PM



“ Gonna, miss his, smile when he he came through my work and left us candies where we served our guest big hugs and prayers to the family and close friends  
xoxoxo ,

Angie Brown - February 26, 2019 at 11:49 PM

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“ Oliver was one of those great people who you wish to spend time with, to have a conversation with and to hope that there would be more people like him in the world. He will be missed !!

Patrick Webb - February 26, 2019 at 11:16 PM



“ High River has lost a very bright light. Mr. Perry you will be a part of our hearts forever. RIP Oliver So very close to

**Beth Birch** - February 26, 2019 at 10:54 PM

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“ Oliver was just truly wonderful. Always had a joke and a butterscotch. He will be missed dearly.



**Jessica Rowland** - February 26, 2019 at 10:48 PM

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“ So sorry to hear of Oliver's passing. He was one of High River's iconic members who served this town well. I think most people in this town knew Oliver in one way or another. Rest In Peace now Oliver, side by side with your dear Mildred.



**Debbie and Craig Schmuland** - February 26, 2019 at 10:45 PM

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“ Oliver Perry, what an incredible inspiration to humanity. He always had a candy to give to me along with a story. I'll remember him with fondness.

**Heather McInnes** - February 26, 2019 at 10:33 PM

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“ The mechanics in this family respected and enjoyed Oliver. Peter is working on one of Oliver's "bucket list" projects that may even be named for Oliver. His supply of butterscotch candies was always appreciated by the youngsters in the family.



**Sheila Macklin** - February 26, 2019 at 10:23 PM

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“ Rest In Peace Oliver



**Denise Ney** - February 26, 2019 at 10:21 PM

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“ Oliver and my Grandfather were friends. I loved that he always had a caramel to hand out. Such an icon

**merridell richardson** - February 26, 2019 at 10:15 PM

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“ Fire Chief Perry. Here was a man that could build or fix anything. And always had many words of wisdom. Rest In Peace Oliver.

**Dale Belley** - February 26, 2019 at 10:00 PM

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“ Diana Walker Florko lit a candle in memory of Mr. Oliver Lewis Perry



**Diana Walker Florko** - February 26, 2019 at 09:49 PM

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“ Mr. Oliver Perry. You made a last impression on me a very long time ago Sir. You taught me a very important lesson very young and have never forgotten. Every time was always wonderful. You will truly be missed.

**Jenn Beaton** - February 26, 2019 at 09:39 PM

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“ I met this man when I held the door open at 7-11 for him. He told me to quite wasting my time because he was to slow haha. He then gave me a pen that said "waiting on 99" as a thank you. He was funny and sweet and I couldn't believe he was still driving. Rest in peace Oliver. You have obviously made a big impact on High River and the people here and you will be missed!

**Alicia** - February 26, 2019 at 09:38 PM

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“ Have known him since moving to High River in 1968. Always offering wisdom and help on my projects. Although his body was failing recently, his mind and memory was still great. Always had a personal history story to share. Will surely be missed.

**Darrell Barrett** - February 26, 2019 at 09:30 PM

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“ Oliver, what a terrific man. We will all miss him!  
Ted & Barb Harty

**Ted & Barb Harty** - February 26, 2019 at 09:00 PM

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“ Mr. perry once came through my till at co-op in high river and when he noticed I couldn't find my pen, he gave me one of his! “Oliver perry... 96 going on 97!” Still have it to this day. Such a bright soul. Rest easy

**hannah shields** - February 26, 2019 at 08:56 PM



“ haha. I got the "98 going on 99" one. Such a funny man!

**Alicia** - February 26, 2019 at 09:52 PM

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“ Leah Randle lit a candle in memory of Mr. Oliver Lewis Perry



**Leah Randle** - February 26, 2019 at 08:43 PM

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“ Awe ... now there is an icon in our community.. I truly missed the smoke pouring out of the shop chimney , and that sweet caramel each and every time.. will be sadly missed in our town.. Rest in peace Oliver , you made a difference



**Rhonda Anderson** - February 26, 2019 at 08:40 PM

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“ Sarah Feaver lit a candle in memory of Mr. Oliver Lewis Perry



**Sarah Feaver** - February 26, 2019 at 08:32 PM

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“ Sharon Doll sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Oliver Lewis Perry



**Sharon Doll** - February 26, 2019 at 08:22 PM

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“ I will always remember Oliver having what seemed like an unlimited amount of caramels in his pocket which he would share with my kids when we saw us at the coffee shop. He was just the kindest and made moving to a new town a little bit easier!

Many thoughts to his family and friends.

**Karla** - February 26, 2019 at 08:01 PM

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“ This man made me a cake when I lost part of my finger..RIP

**hadden** - February 26, 2019 at 07:59 PM

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“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



**Robin Alexander** - February 26, 2019 at 07:54 PM

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“ I am thinking of the first time we met Oliver as small kids, we had just moved to High River, he was so kind, he bought us little cones from Hitchin Post and gave us quarters when he couldn't take us there. The old globe sure needs a lot more Mr. Perry's...

**Kathryn (Pon) Enns** - February 26, 2019 at 07:38 PM

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“ The Lewin Family lit a candle in memory of Mr. Oliver Lewis Perry



**The Lewin Family** - February 26, 2019 at 07:38 PM

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“ Jones Family. lit a candle in memory of Mr. Oliver Lewis Perry



**Jones Family.** - February 26, 2019 at 07:31 PM