



Paul A. Oliver

February 7, 2014

Paul A. Oliver, of Micanopy, FL passed away on Saturday, February 1, 2014, at age 86. Paul was born in Mishawaka, IN, to Kenneth and Berthe Borie Oliver.

After graduation from Niles (MI) High School, he enlisted in the Army and served his country toward the end of WW II. After leaving the Army in 1946, Paul returned home to work in the post-war economy of South Bend, IN. He worked several years for Studebaker, which increased his passion for the marque, and also worked at Bendix Corporation.

Paul loved Rock & Roll and was in several local bands in the 1960's, the last one being "The Trips". They played in clubs in the South Bend area, including Shula's and cut an album in 1969 with Paul on vocals, guitar, saxophone, and organ.

Paul eventually moved to Key West in 1975 and worked for the Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority until his retirement in 1989.

Paul chose to retire in Micanopy because the population in the 1980 census was nearly identical to its 1900 population. It was in Micanopy that Paul re-kindled his love for cars, ultimately purchasing and restoring several pre-WW II cars. His 1930 Model-A Ford Roadster was restored to resemble his first

car, a 1929 Model-A Roadster. Paul's collection grew to include a Model-T fire engine and five other vehicles including the tongue-in-cheek "Micanopy Taxi," a 1925 Studebaker Standard Six sedan, which was featured on the cover of the "Antique Studebaker Review." Paul welcomed visitors into his "Retirement Home for Aged Vehicles" to share his collection and love of cars. Over 2,500 visitors from 37 countries and 44 states visited his garage museum. He also volunteered at the Micanopy Historical Society Museum, and for several years sponsored Little League Micanopy baseball teams including the White Sox team, named after his beloved ChiSox.

Survivors who will cherish Paul's wit and wisdom include the mother of his two children, Doris Oliver Vigansky, of Buchanan, MI, his son Mike (Barb) Oliver of Sodus, MI, daughter Cathy (Rick) Yost of Palm City, FL, and stepson John Reeves of Cape Coral, FL. Other survivors include his niece, Denyse Leahy Feeney and her children, Alison and Christopher, as well as Ginny and Ken Beam, whom he considered as family.

In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his sister, Jeannette, who also served her country during WW II.

There will be a graveside service in Historic Micanopy Cemetery at a later date. Instead of contributions, Paul requests that you "Walk in the Sunshine, Wish on a Star, and Reach for the Sky."

Tribute Wall

CY

“ Hi Ken,
It was nice of you to post on my dad's page. I took his death extremely hard, but I know with time it will get better. He was a wonderful man and I will miss him. Just finished cleaning out his house and sold it already. Sad. I went to Michigan for Mother's Day to see my mom. It was bittersweet, as all her kids were home for her, but we also had to arrange Hospice at Home for her. This hasn't been a good year.
Hope you are well and happy.
Best,
Cathy

Cathy Yost - May 21, 2014 at 01:54 PM

KC

“ Cathy , Paul was such a neat and wonderful man ,wish I had gotter to know him a little better .Its been, I guess, 13 yrs now,,but whenever I see a old Studebaker I think of him and his home in Micanopy.Hope all is well... considering Regards KC

K. Collins - April 03, 2014 at 02:59 PM

TF

“ Dear Cathy,

I was so sorry to hear of your father's passing. I know how hard these times are and can only pray that you and your family lean on God and family/friends to help you through. Just know prayers are issued on behalf of you and your family. God Bless,
Trish

Trish Fields-Clark - February 10, 2014 at 12:14 PM

DL

“ I know that we were miles apart but in spite of those miles you were so very close to my heart. I could never forget you and all those great stories you would tell me about when you were kids and, you'd tease your big sister (my mom) particularly the time you put a live frog in her slipper while you were at your lake house in Wisconsin. Of course I happen to know that she got back at you a few times too!! I loved all the silly poems you'd write to me and Alison. You were such a good writer. Like Alison used to say when she was a little girl "Oh Uncle Paul, your the best"! And you were her "great uncle" in more ways than one. You have given me many happy memories and for that I thank you. You will be missed Uncle Paul.

Denyse Leahy - February 09, 2014 at 10:26 AM