



David W. Oliver

June 26, 1944 - February 26, 2025

David William Oliver, of Bryn Mawr, PA, went unexpectedly from his earthly home to his

heavenly one on February 26, 2025, at age 80. His desire, expressed especially in recent years,

was to cross the finish line running, serving his Lord and Savior until his last day on earth. God

granted him that desire.

The firstborn son of Robert and Elizabeth (Linden) McCracken, David arrived on June 26, 1944

in Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada. Following his young father's passing, David's mother

relocated to Wayne, PA with her two young sons when she married William J. Oliver, and

together, they continued to spiritually guide and care for David and his brother, Alan.

On April 16, 1961, concerned about his sin and his destiny in eternity, David understood

through the words of Isaiah 53:6 that he could be forgiven of his sin and sure of Heaven

because his sin was laid on the Lord Jesus Christ on the cross. "All we like sheep have gone

astray; we have turned - every one - to his own way; and the LORD has laid

on Him the iniquity
(sin) of us all.” Is. 53:6

After a family move to Richmond, VA, David met Melody Holder, who was to quickly become the melody of his heart and his beloved and perfectly suited lifelong partner in service to the Lord. They married on January 29, 1966 and settled in the Bryn Mawr area, where he finished college and worked at John Wanamaker’s, assisting customers and modeling clothing in the men’s department. He taught mathematics at Upper Merion High School until 1974, when he devoted his full time to his life’s passion- working in the spread of the gospel of God’s saving grace and the teaching Bible truth, in fellowship with the believers of the Bryn Mawr Gospel Hall.

John Nobles joined the family in 1973, and Rob and Rebekah were born in 1972 and 1974.

David and Melody balanced a full schedule of travel and service while raising their family. Their deep love for the Lord, for their family and for others made their home a loving and stable place to grow up.

For David, if he met you, you were a friend, and if a friend, then you felt like family. He took a deep personal interest in others- as quick in conversation with a smile, a mischievous look in his eye and a teasing remark as with an insightful and personalized question, reflective of his thoughtful and genuine care.

He loved to sing, and his strong and steady voice was often heard leading congregational singing, and singing in a home with family and friends around a piano, which he played beautifully.

His service was characterized by passion, humility, selflessness and determination. No task or need was too small or too great a match for both his willingness and the need to be “done right”, and his hours needed more than 60 minutes to complete it all. A gifted writer, he authored numerous biblical articles, devotionals, poems, hymns and books, and served for a time as editor of Truth and Tidings magazine.

He was a diligent, lifelong student of the Bible, and his knowledge and wisdom were a blessing to many. Both on the platform and in personal visits, he pointed many souls to the only Savior of sinners, the Lord Jesus Christ, and encouraged others in their faith. His fervor to live for the Lord was contagious, and profoundly influenced the lives and faith of those around him.

A consummate teacher and a skilled communicator, his preaching was fervent, compelling, genuine and deeply rooted in his full hearted commitment to what he referred to as the unswerving truth of the Bible - the Word of his God.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife, Melody, and family, Rob and Becky Oliver, Chloe, Josh and Savannah Oliver, Luke and Lauren Bartram; John and Rebekah, Moriah,

David and Jacob

Nesbitt; John and Maggie, Elizabeth and Rachel Nobles, Jimmy and Deborah Rauseo and

Esther, Joey, Westin and Lily Hamblin; his brother, Alan, and many beloved brothers and sisters

in law, extended family and friends.

A memorial service to honor him and to honor his Lord and Savior will be held, Lord willing, at

the Ardmore United Methodist Church (Ardmore, PA) on Tuesday, March 4, at 11:30 am with a

visitation beforehand from 10:00 am. Interment will follow at the George Washington Memorial

Park (Plymouth Meeting), and a luncheon nearby at the Presidential Event Center (Norristown).

“For to me to live is Christ and to die is gain.” Philippians 1:21

Contributions in David’s honor can be made to Truth and Tidings Gospel Trust for the work of the Lord.

His funeral will be livestreamed at Roboliver.net/live

Cemetery Details

George Washington Memorial Park

80 Stenton Avenue
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

Previous Events

The family will receive guests

MAR 4. 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Ardmore United Methodist Church
200 Argyle Road
Ardmore, PA 19003

Funeral Service

MAR 4. 11:30 AM (ET)

Ardmore United Methodist Church
200 Argyle Road
Ardmore, PA 19003

Tribute Wall



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of David W. Oliver.* ”



March 10, 2025 at 10:02 AM

DS

“ *When the melodies have all been written,
And the final chord has softly played,
When the voices fade to silence,
And the echoes start to fade—*

*There's a song beyond the sunset,
Where no notes will fall away,
A chorus sung in glory,
That will never know decay.*

*Every verse of joy and sorrow,
Every line of hope and grace,
Leads us closer to the moment
When we'll see Him face to face.*

*Though the music here may falter,
And the lyrics slip with time,
Heaven's choir is just beginning,
Singing songs of love divine.*

*I won't fear the closing measure,
For the song will not be done,
It will rise in grand perfection,
In the presence of the Son.*

*So I'll sing my hallelujahs,
Till my earthly tune is through,
Then I'll lift my voice in glory,
With a song forever new.*

Dennis Stickfort - March 09, 2025 at 06:36 PM

BS

“ *Melody and Family - My warmest love and condolences in such a significant loss to your family. ❤️ Wonderful that David is enjoying the presence Jesus Christ and forever, will experience the richness and the beauties and the glories of His person. Much Love - Brad Stuart, New Brunswick Canada*

Brad Stuart - March 04, 2025 at 03:56 PM

RJ

“ *Dearest Auntie Mel, Rob, Beck, and all the family, we love you and are praying for our Lord to comfort your hearts as you grieve. Precious memories can also be a comfort.*

One of my favorite memories of Uncle Dave is of him preaching the gospel in the old Madison Gospel Hall when I was only a few years old. In my little girl eyes, he seemed to fill the front of that tiny building as he stood at the pulpit, preaching with all his heart, tears running down his cheeks and arms outstretched as he welcomed sinners to come to the Savior. Now he is with the Savior he loved so deeply. xo

Rachel and Bryan Joyce - March 04, 2025 at 01:57 PM

AM

How beautiful...what a legacy.. Jesus wept..

agnes martin - March 07, 2025 at 08:26 AM

JS

“Dearest Melody and family,
We convey our deepest sympathies to you all. Being able to be with you and David were always rare and special occasions for us. We will miss him but look forward to the unending joy of seeing him at the next meeting, which blessed hope we all have.

David has been a blessing through his warm presence, sense of humor, interest in the gospel, and love for the Lord's people everywhere.

When you and David first landed in Kuala Lumpur, and got into Mr. Bentley's car, and were asked how you were doing, David's response was, "Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me?"

David is now in the presence of his beloved Savior. May our Lord, Who has welcomed him into His eternal abode, grant you and family comfort, strength, assurance, and peace, through this time of bereavement.

With much Love from, Susan, Cherish, Glen, Ariel, & John See

John See - March 04, 2025 at 02:21 AM

L(

“Les and Yvonne (Vonnie) purchased the Fairest of All for the family of David W. Oliver.



Les and Yvonne (Vonnie) - March 03, 2025 at 02:03 PM

L(

“ *Les and Yvonne (Vonnie) planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of David W. Oliver.*

Les and Yvonne (Vonnie) - March 03, 2025 at 02:03 PM

TF

“ *The Winston Family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of David W. Oliver.*



The Winston Family - March 03, 2025 at 01:41 PM

JJ

“ *Judy & Al, Jill, Stephen, Matthew & John purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of David W. Oliver.*



Judy & Al, Jill, Stephen, Matthew & John - March 03, 2025 at 08:58 AM

FA

“ *From the Bryn Mawr Assembly purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of David W. Oliver.*



From the Bryn Mawr Assembly - March 03, 2025 at 08:43 AM

CH

“ *Christians from Pennsauken Gospel Hall purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of David W. Oliver.*



Christians from Pennsauken Gospel Hall - March 03, 2025 at 07:57 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of David W. Oliver.*



March 03, 2025 at 07:51 AM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of David W. Oliver.*



March 02, 2025 at 10:58 PM



“ *Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of David W. Oliver.*



March 02, 2025 at 08:54 PM

AM

“ *The fragrance of our beloved Saviour, that's what David Oliver was..
We remember him coming to Sault Ste Marie...Ontario..
He would have a letter to be posted every day to his beloved
Melody...
Our Jennifer who went to Lake State University would take the
letters & drop them in the mailbox in Michigan..
What a loss....our Sympathy to one & all..
When we all get to heaven what a day of rejoicing that will be,
When we all see Jesus we'll sing & shout the victory...
Willie & Agnes Martin*

agnes martin - March 02, 2025 at 07:22 PM

TF

“ *The Nesbitt Family purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of David W. Oliver.*



The Nesbitt Family - March 02, 2025 at 04:45 PM

TF

“ *The Nesbitt Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of David W. Oliver.*

The Nesbitt Family - March 02, 2025 at 04:45 PM

AH

“ *Augusta gospel hall purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of David W. Oliver.*



Augusta gospel hall - March 02, 2025 at 02:46 PM

AL

“ Our brother and friend in the Lord ,David ,will be missed by so many people ,especially by his beloved wife Melody and his son and daughter and their family.

David was always welcomed in Moncton NB ,Canada where his father , who was commended to the Lord s , was well known and loved.

In the past years , David and Melody were regularly attending the conference in Deland ,Florida where we got to enjoy his ministry and a pleasant chat.

Sending love to Melody and family

Omer and Anne Leblanc

Shediac NB Canada

Anne Leblanc - March 02, 2025 at 01:02 PM

RS

“ *The Nicholas Sarlo family Loves David and Melody Oliver & Family. Many memories of having David in Jackson, MI for gospel meetings and souls being saved through his preaching the gospel, coming to our home for singing our beloved hymns and he sang from his heart and played the piano so beautifully. We thank his family for letting us enjoy him as part of our family, it must not have been easy for you to give him up for the Gospels sake, Thank You!!*

When my brother Philip and I heard of David's Home call we just Could not wrap our minds around the fact that he was gone. David & Melody have been a blessing to so many for so long!!

Remember "The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms" Deuteronomy 33:27a

"Look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh."

Luke 21:28b

I can only imagine Davids welcome home to his real Home in heaven first by his Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ and family and friends already there because of Calvary.

We know what it is to lose our Dad, but soon we will all be Home, no more goodbyes, no night there, our Lord Jesus will be the light!!

Love Ruth Ann Sarlo

Ruth Ann Sarlo - March 02, 2025 at 08:58 AM

MF

“ *Mark and Barb Freymond*

Memories made with Dave and Melody are forever etched upon our hearts and cherished as "apples of gold in pictures of silver".



Mark and Barb Freymond - March 01, 2025 at 10:48 PM

MF

This picture of Dave and Melody was taken February 11, 2025

Mark and Barb Freymond - March 01, 2025 at 10:51 PM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of David W. Oliver.*



March 01, 2025 at 06:05 PM



“ *Tender Tribute was purchased for the family of David W. Oliver.*



March 01, 2025 at 03:04 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of David W. Oliver.*



March 01, 2025 at 02:05 PM

WS

“ Dear Melody and all the family. We will cherish the memory of David at the Deland conference forever in our hearts. He took the time to speak with each of us and his depth of appreciation for the Person Of Christ and why we are here on earth was astounding. He spoke of us preparing ourselves for heaven, "Training for reigning". Little did we know, how soon he would be there and experiencing all the glories of the One he loved. Our hearts are breaking, but we know that he is in a wonderful place with many he has known and loved but especially his blessed Savior.

He so kindly and thoughtfully took my 94 year old father's funeral and the family is forever grateful, and he supported the Hardwick Vermont conference for many years. He loved tasting the homemade pies, and we would make a shoo fly pie if we knew that he was coming. May the Everlasting Arms hold each of you during this very difficult time. Love and hugs, Bill and Linda Scott

William D Scott - March 01, 2025 at 11:29 AM



“ Heavenly Light was purchased for the family of David W. Oliver.



March 01, 2025 at 10:51 AM

LP

“ David has been a close friend for as long as I can remember. Alan and I took Dave and Melody to many conference weekends together. Dad had Dave in his Sunday School class, and was immensely proud of his work for the Lord, and his earnest gospel preaching. Diane and I extend our love and deepest sympathy to Melody, Rob, Rebekah, and all the family. We hope you know much of the Lord’s comforting presence. Nahum 1:7

Lindsay Parks - March 01, 2025 at 09:21 AM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of David W. Oliver.



February 28, 2025 at 10:54 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of David W. Oliver.

February 28, 2025 at 10:54 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of David W. Oliver.



February 28, 2025 at 10:16 PM

JP

“ To Melody and family members, I extend sincere condolences at this very difficult time. When my wife passed just over 2 years ago, I was most encouraged by comments David wrote in the June 2009 issue of Truth & Tidings, Questions & Answers Forum, especially the last point how married believers will relate to one another in Heaven.

May you all experience the Lord's comfort at this time of grief. I grieve with you all, but especially Melody.

John Potter, PEI, Canada

John Potter - February 28, 2025 at 07:06 PM

DD

Dear Melody,

David was such a good man, and his devotion to the Lord and his loving family was evident in everything he did. He will be missed.

Denise M. Dolan

Denise M. Dolan - March 01, 2025 at 09:56 AM

MM

Dear Melody, we at Maberly Hall send our prayers and love as were expecting you to come for our conference but the lord had other plans and Dave is at home “now are we the sons of God and it doth not appear what we shall be but we know that when He shall appear we shall be like Him for we shall see Him as he is” 1Jn 3. Murray McLeod and all the saints.

Murray McLeod - March 02, 2025 at 06:22 PM