



## Tobias "Toby" Larson

March 18, 1929 - January 22, 2026

Toby's service will be livestreamed at <https://player.memoryshare.com/video/to-biastoby-larson-valleycity-nd>

The funeral service for Tobias "Toby" Larson, 96, Valley City, North Dakota will be 2 pm Wednesday, January 28, 2026, at Grace Free Lutheran Church, Valley City. Visitation will be one hour before the service at the church. He died Thursday, January 22, at SMP Health-St. Raphael, Valley City.

Tobias Lavern Larson was born March 18, 1929, on the family farm in Green Township, Barnes County, North Dakota. He attended Green School and worked for a local farmer. Toby was united in marriage to Margaret Thom on December 8, 1950, in Jamestown, North Dakota. They made their home in Valley City. Toby began his career with the City of Valley City in March of 1956, working in various positions until becoming the Street Superintendent. He retired in September 1990.

He liked to roller-skate and tend to his garden.

Toby is survived by his children Mary Burchill (Duane), Jeanne Shanenko (Bruce), Darlene Shanenko (Greg) all of Valley City and Tobe Larson (Kelly) of Grand Forks, North Dakota; 10 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife Margaret on May 10, 2017, four brothers, two sisters and grandson Smith Burchill.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Traditions Funeral Services,  
Valley City. An online guestbook is available at [www.olivernathanchapel.com](http://www.olivernathanchapel.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Woodbine Cemetery

Valley City, ND

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 28. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Grace Free Lutheran Church  
2351 W Main St  
Valley City, ND 58072

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## Funeral Service

JAN 28. 2:00 PM (CT)

Grace Free Lutheran Church  
2351 W. Main St.  
Valley City, ND

# Tribute Wall

GS

“ My sympathy to you, Toby's family, on the news of his homegoing. He was one of a kind and lived a good, long life. My dad sure enjoyed working with him when he was mayor and Toby was street superintendent. hold close all your wonderful memories of him.  
Gwen (Miedema) Schmidt

Gwen Schmidt - January 30 at 06:35 PM

DO

“ Our sincere sympathy to "the sisters" ... you will always be "the sisters" to me. I appreciated your smiles and conversation always. And now, I know the name of the third sister who is someone I have known for a long time as well. I saw Mary in the family room one time but did not realize why she was there.. Your father had a long well-lived life. Treasure those precious memories.

Durward Phyllis Dean Otterness - January 28 at 03:05 PM

LB

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with Toby's family. May Jesus bring you comfort and peace.Blessings~ Jason, Liscie,, Jonah and Jacob

Liscie Bergstrand - January 28 at 09:39 AM

LB

“ Liscie Bergstrand lit a candle in memory of Tobias "Toby" Larson



Liscie Bergstrand - January 28 at 09:33 AM

CN

“ *My sympathy to Toby's family. I always enjoyed visiting with him when Marg and my Mom were in the nursing home. He was a very special man!!*

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**Carl Nix** - January 27 at 03:27 PM

BR

“ *Toby Larson was one of the nicest people. He'd gotten Meals on Wheels for many years and he was always one of my favorite people. He'd always share tomatoes or apples or even a bit of pocket change to my kids when they'd help deliver. He was so fun to visit with and he will be so greatly missed.*  
*Brenda Rohde*

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**Brenda** - January 26 at 02:42 PM

PG

“ *Property Resources Group planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Tobias "Toby" Larson.*

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**Property Resources Group** - January 26 at 11:49 AM

PG

“ *Property Resources Group purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Tobias "Toby" Larson.*



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**Property Resources Group** - January 26 at 11:49 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Tobias "Toby" Larson.



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January 24 at 06:25 PM



“ Sincere condolences to Toby's family, he was the best street superintendent Valley City will ever have! He was an expert in the road grader and got his crew out early to keep the streets clear when we had a huge storm. My husband, Duane, was his assistant and drove the payloader behind the plows to clear the intersections of the snow left behind, they did such a great job and really cared about keeping the emergency routes open. If there was ice, he made sure a man was out sanding the hills. I'm sure the first thing he did was give Marge a big hug! Sending prayers to his family and friends!  
Joan Studebaker

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**Joan Studebaker** - January 24 at 01:53 PM



“ Words cannot express our sincere condolences to Toby's family. We have such fond memories of Toby and Marg and the kids. Rest in peace my friend.  
Gary Meyer - Fargo

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**Gary Meyer** - January 23 at 05:40 PM



“ Our heartfelt sympathies to Toby's girls, and all who loved Toby. He was a staple on the city crew and at the skating rink. Lynn and Guy

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**Lynn Hill** - January 23 at 08:59 AM

MA

“ Since I was only in second grade when Toby married my sister I have many years of memories. What stuck in mind of when they were dating was he would be at the farm; he would take my hands and I would walk up his legs to probably upper chest and then he'd flip me over his head and I ended up on my feet on his backside. I thought it was so cool and fun. Of course, so many Christmases, Fourth of July, playing cards and family gatherings. After Marg passed I would stop and have great visits and often end up at Burger King. I'll never forget my last visit at the house as his friend called to go out for coffee and then he felt guilty for agreeing to go. He had it all figured out i could lay down and rest on the sofa until he got back as he wouldn't be gone long-had i done that he probably wouldn't have enjoyed the coffee outing as he'd be worried about me. I always admired Marg as the Thom sisters were kind of laid back and Toby had far more energy than I thought either of us could keep up with. May he rest in peace with “the woman of his dreams”. Your sister-in-law. Marilyn

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marilyn - January 22 at 09:13 PM