



## Philip Cyril Cory

March 7, 1942 - September 4, 2020

Mr. Philip Cyril Cory, age 78, passed away Friday September 4, 2020. No services have been planned at this time.

Mr. Cory was born in Watertown New York on March 7, 1942 to the late Claud Cory and the late Phylis Sayer Cory. He worked in the movie industry as a special effects coordinator. He was preceded in death by his son Richard James Cory.

Mr. Cory is survived by his wife Judy Cory of Eatonton, daughters Karyn Alexander and Reva Alexander both of Eatonton, son Kenny (wife Amber) Alexander of California, brothers Earl (wife Christine) Cory of California and Cecil (wife Karen) Cory of California, sister Iva (husband Paul) Heitz of Nevada, as well as 5 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren.

# Tribute Wall

“ Philip Cyril Cory (March 7, 1942 – September 4, 2020)

*Philip Cory was born Saturday March 7, 1942 at 5:30 in the morning at the hospital in Watertown, New York. Philip was the second child of Claude and Phyllis (Sayer) Cory. Earl had been born a year before. The family was living on the Cory Farm with Claude’s parents at the time.*

*When Philip was two months old, the Corys rented half of a double house in Black River. The following year, they bought a house in Watertown.*

*One morning in 1944, Phil was unable to stand in his crib. Earl called down to his mother that Phil could not walk. They diagnosed him with Infantile Paralysis (Polio.) He recovered, but with after affects. As he grew, his right leg was about ¼ inch shorter, which caused him back trouble into his teens; he wore a ¼ pad in one shoe to even out his spine. More about that later.*

*Post-Polio Syndrome (PPS) is a condition that affects polio survivors ten to 40 years after recovery from an initial infection. PPS is characterized by further weakening of muscles that were previously affected by the polio infection. Symptoms include fatigue, slow progressive muscle weakness and deterioration. Joint pain and bone deformities are common.*

*As a child, Claude contracted Tuberculosis (TB) with the result that he suffered from asthma the rest of his life. In the fall of 1947, when Philip started kindergarten, Claude’s asthma was getting very bad. The doctor told him that he would give him ten years to live if he stayed in upstate New York. He recommended that the family move to Arizona.*

*They decided that they would go west to raise their family. Claude’s cousin, Vernon Corey, lived in Los Angeles. He told them: “Living quarters are hard to find. If you are coming west, you better bring your house with you.”*

*While their house was up for sale, they saw an advertisement in the paper for a Glider house trailer. It was 27 feet long and had a living room, kitchen, bedroom, and was in very good condition. The sale included a low mileage, 1946 four door Dodge.*

*While they were getting ready to leave, Claude and the boys came down with chickenpox. They stayed with Claude's mother and her brother until after Christmas when they were recovered. On Wednesday, January 21, 1948, the Cory family left for The West. The entire trip took eighteen days. When they arrived in Phoenix, they looked around the city, looked for jobs in the paper, and decided to continue to Claude's cousin in Los Angeles. They arrived in Los Angeles on Sunday, February 8, 1948. The next week they settled into a front row space at the Mercury Trailer Park in Cudahy. The space was small and noisy being next to major street, but it was all that was available.*

*The boys were enrolled in the first and second grades at nearby Elizabeth Street School.*

*After several months they were able to move their trailer to a double space in the back corner. This allowed them to have a lawn on one side of the trailer and a patio on the other.*

*The trailer park had all the conveniences of modern living, large public toilets and showers, laundry room, plenty of clotheslines (right next to the Cory's space), and the ice man delivered ice twice a week. There was plenty of space in the back for tenant's gardens. A man would come once a week and erect a large screen in the back and show movies from a van. This was the start of outdoor movies, except here you did not drive-in you walked over, brought your own chair and popcorn.*

*One especially nice feature of the trailer park was the vacant lot next door. The kids living in and near the trailer park were able to go there to catch Horn Toads.*

*Earl heard about the Cub Scouts at school and wanted to join.*

*Phyllis had been a Girl Scout leader in New York and thought it was*

*a good idea. The next year, 1949, when he was old enough, Phil joined the pack. He later joined the Boy Scouts and Explorer Scouts.*

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**EARL S CORY** - April 25, 2021 at 08:56 PM