

Perkins, Les

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The Lake Orion Review  
April 7, 1993

Back in 1971, the Lake Orion Review described Les Perkins, the new village police chief, as a "dynamic young man with a vigorous personality."

Mr. Perkins, 69, died on March 31, 1993 of

cancer. He served as Lake Orion's chief until October 1977. After he retired, he moved to Caro.

One of Mr. Perkin's goals as police chief was to make the village's police into a modern workforce. He wanted to make the department educated and efficient and to establish understanding and awareness with the community.

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**"He was an excellent police officer," former police chief Neil Leonard said. "He was very strong in his beliefs and always tried to do the right thing for the community."**

**Mr. Perkins brought expertise to the police department. While serving in the Army, he was a military officer. In the Upper Peninsula, Perkins was a member of the Michigan State Police. He joined the village's police force in 1962.**

**"He liked his investigation work, especially murders, and he was good at it," Leonard remembers.**

**Mr. Perkins solved the murder of Francis Brown, killed in downtown Lake Orion, in 1966.**

After leaving the village, he owned and operated North Metro Investigative Agency in Caro and enjoyed the hobby of making jewelry.

Mr. Perkins is survived by his children, Leslie Verschaeve of Dryden, Lisa Stier of New Baltimore, Jon of Port Huron, Kent of Redford and Bonnie Lee of Rochester; 11 grandchildren; a sister, Elaine Thornton of Lansing; and a stepfather, Carl Huhn of Lansing.

Funeral services were April 2 from Lake Orion Chapel, Sparks-Griffin Funeral Home. Interment was in East Lawn Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Lapeer Area Hospice Inc. 544 North Main, Lapeer 48446.