

**“Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love, generosity, and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy.” ~ Church, F. P. (1897, September 21). *Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus*. The Sun.**

As we reflected on the plans for this year’s Home for Christmas event, it’s hard to imagine just how much has changed in such a short time. In January 2023, we lost our dear friend and committee member, Paul Price, who dedicated nearly 40 years to Christmas activities in our town. From spending Saturdays with Tom Grance and the many children who visited Santa, to helping light up the town and share the spirit of the season, Paul’s contributions were immeasurable and are missed during the holiday season.

Unfortunately, over the past couple of years, our Christmas lights have faced challenges. In 2021, a fuse box on North Spring Street was melted, causing the lights to go out. Then, in 2023, West Main Street’s lights stopped working as well. Working closely with the Everett Borough, we explored all options to restore the lights. After consulting with Penelec, we learned that Penelec will not permit any organization other than their own to handle repairs. The most cost-effective and feasible solution is to install an OWL on each pole. Each OWL costs approximately \$1,000, and we would need 76 of them to cover Main Street, North Spring Street, and South Street. Any funds received over the \$76,000 goal will go towards the upkeep and future replacement of the holiday lights, ensuring that the festive spirit Paul desired for our little town remains bright for years to come.

In memory of Paul, we’re asking for your support to light up the town again. Donations can be made at M&T Bank to the **Borough of Everett, Christmas Account**, or checks can be mailed to:

**Borough of Everett, Christmas Account**

137 E Main St  
Everett, PA 15537

Let’s come together and keep the holiday spirit shining bright in our town, just as Paul would have wanted.

Warm regards,

Amber Snyder  
Ideas Committee Chair