Oliver Overseth passed away on 17 July 2008 at his home in Key West, Florida.

Overseth received his BS from the University of Chicago in 1952 and his PhD from Brown University in 1958. Following a period as an instructor and research associate at Princeton University he joined the University of Michigan faculty in 1961.

An experimental high-energy physicist, he initially studied proton polarization and other strong-interaction processes at the Cosmotron at Brookhaven National Laboratory. His primary research interest then turned to hyperons, and with Jim Cronin he performed a classic spark-chamber experiment to measure the decay parameters of $\Lambda \rightarrow p\pi^-$. Overseth continued to study the properties of hyperons at the Princeton–Penn Accelerator and in 1969 wrote a Scientific American article on Experiments in time reversal. He then joined Tom Devlin and Lee Pondrom to initiate a celebrated series of experiments at Fermilab, the first of which, E8, discovered the sizable polarization of inclusively produced hyperons at 300 GeV/c. This was used to make precise measurements of the magnetic moments of all hyperons from the $\Lambda$ to the $\Omega^-$. He continued his research on hyperons with the UA6 experiment at CERN as well as on the WA96 (NOMAD) experiment.

At Michigan, the highly regarded lecturer chaired the doctoral thesis committees of 12 students and served on many college and university committees. Being one of the first to recognize such a need, Overseth pioneered a special physics class teaching future elementary-school teachers in 1973. He was interested in teaching at all levels, an arena where he demonstrated a natural ability, especially in the large lecture courses. He was a great friend to his students, taking an interest in their personal and professional lives.

After his retirement in 1992 he lived in Geneva before moving to Key West. He is survived by two daughters, Alison Overseth and Tenley LeSann, five grandchildren and his second wife, Ludy van Bruggen Overseth.

Lawrence W Jones, Michigan.