

Frantz, Dr. Douglas

Dr. Douglas William Frantz, 85, of Traverse City, died Thursday, April 3, 2003, at Grand Traverse Pavilions. Born on June 26, 1917 in Ubly, he was the son of William and Elizabeth (Johnston) Frantz. He married the former Arlene Anderson in Des Moines, Iowa in 1942. She survives him. After graduating from Michigan State College, Doug attended Kansas City College of Osteopathic Medicine graduating in 1943. He returned to Michigan to begin general practice in Detroit. Douglas and Arlene moved with their family to Traverse City in 1951, where he remained a family physician until his retirement in 1982. In addition to his practice in Traverse City, he maintained an office in Cedar during the 1950s. Doug was known by many as a compassionate person who cared deeply about his work and his patients. Especially gratifying to him were the many births that he attended. He was a kind and generous man, genuinely interested in people of all backgrounds, and helped many in need. Doug's active community involvement included 52 years as a Kiwanis Club member, serving as president in 1962. He played an instrumental role on the Osteopathic Hospital building committee, which established the hospital on Munson Avenue during the early 1960s. After retiring, he served for 15 years as a member of the Grand Traverse County Family Independence Agency Board, and helped to establish the groundwork for Grand Traverse Pavilions. He was a member of the Grand Traverse Pavilions Foundation until his death. Doug was also a longtime member of Central United Methodist Church. Doug enjoyed outdoor activities, his card playing and fishing buddies, travel and especially his family. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Arlene; sons, Douglas Frantz Jr. and his wife, Laura Evans, of Brattleboro, Vt., Dennis Frantz of Traverse City, David Frantz and his wife, Linda, of Bend, Ore.; daughter, Donna Flynn and her husband, Michael, of Traverse City; grandchildren, Isaac Evans-Frantz, Emily and Rachel Flynn; brother, Willis Frantz of Youngstown, Ohio; several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by three brothers and three sisters. A memorial service will be conducted at a later date. The family is being served by the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home in Traverse City. Memorial contributions may be directed to Grand Traverse Pavilions or Northwestern Michigan College.