



Michigan Amateur Radio Alliance

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Ralph William Ortwig N8PWR

Ralph William Ortwig, M.D., F.A.C.S. of Cascade, passed away on September 16, 2009, at the age of 75. He is survived by his wife, Elaine; his two sons, Kurt (Deyan) and Erik Ortwig; three grandsons, Alex, Max and Zach as well as both of his sisters, Margaret Baker and Normal Smith. Ralph was a graduate of the University of Michigan Medical School. He was an early proponent of emergency rooms in the Grand Rapids area before specializing as an ear, nose and throat doctor who became known to many of his young patients as "the Balloon Doctor". Ralph joined our club just before he retired and was having a ball getting into just about everything Ham radio related. He always had a smile for everybody and would discuss Ham Radio till the sun came up.