



# **Dr. Peter Alexander McArthur**

JAN 31, 1925 - JUL 23, 2014



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## **Dr. Peter Alexander McArthur**

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**D**r. Peter A. McArthur, longtime resident of Grand Haven, passed away peacefully Wednesday, July 23rd, 2014 at the age of 89. Dr. McArthur was a beloved husband, father, and grandfather, as well as a respected family practice physician. Born January 31st 1925 in Lakewood, Ohio to Earl and Helene McArthur, Peter grew up in Mariemont, Ohio, with his sister, Millicent. He earned his bachelor's degree in history at William's College, graduated from Midshipman's School at Columbia University, and earned a commission of Lt. J.G. in the United States Naval Reserve. Upon discharge from active duty, he earned his medical degree at New York University Medical School. It was while completing his residency at the University of Michigan that Dr. McArthur met his wife of 59 years, Edna. Together, they moved to Grand Haven, started a family, and opened a medical practice that focused on serving local families, industries, and the U.S. Coast Guard. Each patient was greeted by name by office manager and sister-in-law Dorothy, as well as Edna. "Dr. Pete" took time to listen to each patient, not just about health matters, but also about children, gardens, worries, and interests. Dr. Pete treated the whole patient. Peter, Edna, and Dorothy fondly remembered each patient long after they had closed the practice. Throughout his practice and into his retirement, Dr. McArthur was a lover of history and a naturalist who quietly studied all the local birds and wildflowers, documenting his findings in meticulous photographs. Dr. McArthur served the community through many years with the Ottawa County Mental Health Society. He was also a lifelong and highly active member of the Boy Scouts of America, where he attained the rank of Eagle Scout as a young man, served as a commissioner with the Grand Valley Council, and was honored with membership in The Order of the Arrow, Scouting's National Honor Society. Long after his own sons had grown, Dr. McArthur continued to enjoy regular trips with the Scouts to Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico. Dr. McArthur was also a faithful member of the First Presbyterian Church of



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Grand Haven, where he and Edna made many lifelong friends. Family and friends alike remember Dr. McArthur as a deeply thoughtful and humble person with an insatiable curiosity about the world around him, but also as a man with a ready smile and a true appreciation of the humorous aspects of life.

Dr. McArthur's wife Edna preceded him in passing January 6th of this year, along with his youngest son James, in 2010. Dr. McArthur is survived by his sister Millicent and her husband Dick Wallin of Rochester, Michigan; sister-in-law Dorothy Scott of Grand Haven; two sons: Peter, Jr. and wife Jennifer, of Los Angeles, Andrew and wife Vanessa, of Salem, Virginia; daughter-in-law Michelle McArthur of Holland; and seven grandchildren: Peter III, Patrick, Aidan, Jordan and wife Katy, Amy, William, and John McArthur.

Private family services will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the First Presbyterian Church of Grand Haven. Please share memories with the family at their online guest book at [www.vbkfuneralhome.com](http://www.vbkfuneralhome.com). The family is being served by VanZantwick Bartels Kammeraad Funeral Home of Grand Haven.



## Events

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### Cemetery Details



**Lake Forest Cemetery**

Grand Haven MI 49417





## Tribute Wall

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TH

**Tracy Holt** posted:

My deepest condolences on the passing of Dr. McArthur, he delivered me and my brothers and gave us life, he was also my Doctor for all my childhood years! Prayers!

August 24 at 5:30 PM

RB

**Regina Busman** posted:

August 21, 2014 It has saddened me to learn of Dr. McArthur's passing. I always enjoyed speaking to him and knew of his dedication to his patients and to the staff that served him. My sympathies to his family and friends. Regina Busman(former PBX Operator and Doctor's Answering Service at NOCH)

August 21 at 4:18 AM

DS

**Dave Sluiter** posted:

I have many memories of Dr. McArthur as we were growing up and even into college years. He was always very kind and took the time to talk with me, asking me how things were going. My condolences to the McArthur family, sending thoughts and prayers. God Bless all of you.- Dave Sluiter

August 17 at 10:11 AM

JO

**Joanne Van Oordt** posted:

I have fond memories of Dr. McArthur, having had him deliver my 3 children. He was always so nice and caring as was his wife, Edna, and sister-in-law, Dorothy, all special people. My condolences, Joanne Van Oordt

August 11 at 11:04 AM



## Tribute Wall

**Dr. Peter Alexander McArthur**

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BS

**Becky Steinhauer** lit a candle in honor of Peter.

Dr. Pete McArthur delivered me into the world and he and his wife Edna, and sister Dorothy, became lifelong friends of my parents, my brother and sisters and our children. They had a charming way of making us feel right at home, whether it was a picnic meal on their enclosed back porch complete with watermelon and ice cream for dessert, or checking what was growing in Dr. Pete's vegetable garden. We never felt rushed, and they would lovingly take the time to play catch and board games with my son, and never missed a baseball game or an occasion to send a greeting card to any of us. They graciously accepted the wildflower arrangements I came up with from our yard. I can almost picture Dr. Pete enjoying hiking around heaven, with the refreshing creeks and waterfalls, and listening to a few of my Dad's jokes. Love always, Becky Braddock-Steinhauer



August 8 at 9:18 AM

RB

**Rosa Bice** posted:

When I ran Riverside Nursing Centre, Dr. McArthur was my medical director. He was a fine physician and always considerate of us nurses. Edna and Dorothy were such wonderful women and helped me whenever I came to the office for signatures or his help. Dorothy, I'm thinking and praying for you, it's been a rough year for you. I hope you get my message that I thank you and your family for being part of my life. God bless you and yours.

August 7 at 9:20 AM

BJ

**Barbara Jager** posted:

We remember Dr. Pete and Edna and Dorothy fondly. Dr. Pete made a house call for Roger 55 years ago and was our family Doctor until his retirement. One can not say enough about what a wonderful and caring Doctor he was. Also what a great office to visit with both Edna and Dorothy working there. It was like having a Doctor and office that was home! There are many fine Doctors in this area but there was never one that could really take the place of Dr. Pete and his office. Our Sympathy to your family. Roger and Barb Jager

August 6 at 4:26 PM

BP

**Beverly Postema** posted:

Dr McArthur will be remembered with fond thoughts by all of us retired Nurses from NOCH. My condolences to the family of a caring Dr. Beverly Aney Postema

August 6 at 4:32 AM



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RS

**Robin Sharp** posted:

Dr. McArthur brought me & my 3 brothers & sisters into this world, and even tended to my father in the hospital before his untimely death. He was truly the most compassionate & caring doctor I have ever known. A great soul serves everyone all the time. A great soul never dies. It brings us together again and again. ~Maya Angelou Dr. Pete was truly a great soul & heaven has gained a special angel. Please accept my sincerest condolences in your time of sorrow. Robin Guthrie Sharp Charlotte, NC

August 2 at 12:20 PM

TD

**Tom Degram** posted:

So many memories growing up next door to the MacArthurs. Doc Pete was my Doctor for years, a family run practice. My condolences to the MacArthur family you are in my thoughts & prayers. Tom DeGram, Naples FL

August 2 at 6:19 AM

HF

**Henry Fase** lit a candle in honor of Peter.

The McArthur Family: I am so sorry to learn of Dr. Pete's passing. Dr. Pete was truly a man who gave back to Life & Community, and I will remember very fondly of Dr. Pete, Mrs. McArthur and of course my life long best friend Jamie. One caring time I will never forget was when my mother was dying and she needed a new type medication to ease her suffering, her doctor wouldn't administer to her as well as our local hospital refused, my father asked me if I thought Jamie's dad would, I called the home of the McArthur's and Dr. Pete was down to our house on Wisconsin street in minutes taking care of my mom, still brings tears of Dr. Pete's caring heart. I have you all in my heart, my thoughts & in my prayers for God's healing spirit to be with you all... Lovingly, your ole friend Henry Fase



August 1 at 7:52 PM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Peter by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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