



HENRY C. PORTALUPI, M.D.

1917 - 1999

Long-time member, Henry C. Portalupi, M.D. died of pancreatic cancer on September 7, 1999.

Dr. Portalupi was a respected physician and surgeon in the community since 1944, practicing in the Arcata area. Dr. Portalupi Retired from practice in 1981.

Dr. Portalupi graduated from the Creighton University in 1941. Immediately following graduation, he served in the Army Medical Corps and served in the Pacific during World War II as an Army captain. After he was stationed in Eureka, he located his private practice in Arcata. Dr. Portalupi served as Chief-of-Staff of the Trinity Hospital in Arcata and served as Director of the Emergency Room at Mad River Hospital. Dr. Portalupi was a compassionate and dedicated physician. He treated his patients with respect and dignity. He never turned a patient away, whether they could afford payment or not, and left his office open to late hours in the evening to ensure that his patients were getting the care they needed. After he closed his office in the early '80's, he continued assisting at Mad River Hospital.

He married his wife, Birgitta in 1981. During his semi-retirement, Dr. Portalupi and his wife traveled extensively to Europe and spent time in Hawaii. He will be missed by the wonderful friends he acquired across the globe. Throughout his life, he actively participated as a sportsman in skiing, hiking, hunting, and swimming. He became an expert in a number of hobbies including photography, electronics and woodworking. He was a devout Catholic, and on his trips to Italy, he enjoyed bringing back exquisite presents for the church, including the mosaic currently at St. Mary's Church. Dr. Portalupi was actively involved for many years in property development throughout the community.