



Ray Cross

Ray E. Cross was a highly respected and honored 42-year member of the **Kiwanis Club of Ann Arbor** who joined the organization in 1964 and remained active to his passing in 2006. Academically, the Pontiac, MI native survived the depression and graduated from **Michigan Tech** in 1935 and he became the first Tech student to earn with honors a Bachelor's and Master's Degree in (Chemical Engineering and Chemistry, respectively) in four years. His outstanding scholarship was recognized by election to Tau Beta Pi, the honorary engineering fraternity, whose emblematic key he proudly wore throughout his life.

For his professional accomplishments, he was recognized by induction into the Outstanding Chemistry Alumni Academy (1996). And for his generous financial support, he was honored by membership in Tech's President's Club and Hubbell Society. In 1941, Ray married **Eleanor Kennedy**, a union which led to four children and a successful business venture, as they partnered to found and operate the Ann Arbor dealership of Culligan Water Conditioning for over four decades.

Ray and Eleanor Cross' philanthropy was the backbone of the community with annual support of academic scholarships and camper ships, the Ann Arbor Symphony and other non-profit organizations. Ray sat on the Kiwanis Club of Ann Arbor's Board of Directors and led a group of club visitors to Maxey Boy's Training School in celebration of Christmas and for an enjoyable summer picnic.

His reputation for decades of perfect attendance at the club's weekly meeting is renown. The **Kiwanis of Michigan Foundation (KMF)** and their support of children's programs in four Michigan Hospitals was important to Ray and Eleanor and their foundation was a significant financial contributor to the KMF. Today, the tradition of Cross involvement in Kiwanis continues through his active son Harry who served as president and a board of director member of the Kiwanis Club of Ann Arbor.

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