

## OBITUARIES

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**DR. FRANCIS PHILLIPS** Dr. Francis Phillips , an Alaska physician honored for his work with tuberculosis patients and alcoholism education, died April 12 at his Anchorage home. He was 84.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday at Central Lutheran Church, 1420 Cordova St. The Rev. Glenn Groth of Eagle River will officiate.

Dr. Phillips was born Oct. 4, 1904, in Hay Springs, Neb. He completed his premedical studies at the University of Nebraska. He earned a medical degree from the University of Chicago. In World War II, he served as a U.S. Army medical officer in five theaters including the Aleutians.

Dr. Phillips returned to Alaska and was employed as chest surgeon at the Seward Sanatorium in 1950, when tuberculosis was raging in the state. He soon became medical director. Dr. Phillips not only performed surgery, but also taught the patients vocational skills that would let them lead more sedentary lives, a necessity for their wellbeing.

For his role in leading the early-organized outpatient treatment of tuberculosis in Alaska, he won the Lorraine Cross for distinguished service in tuberculosis.

Dr. Phillips also treated the Seward townspeople and flew to Homer once a month in the early '50s when they were without a local doctor.

In 1957, Dr. Phillips moved to Anchorage where he did follow up care of arrested tuberculosis cases in local hospitals and clinics. He also served as the city health officer. He became chief of tuberculosis control for the territory of Alaska, and also continued to run the Wesleyan Hospital for Chronic Diseases in Seward.

When the Uniform Alcoholism Act was passed in 1972, Dr. Phillips became involved in the Social Development Center for street alcoholics. He was a consultant on alcoholism to various agencies and organizations including the National Institute for Alcoholism and Addiction in Rockville, Md., the U.S. Air Force, and the Alaska Native Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse. He worked as a parttime instructor on alcoholism for Kenai Peninsula Community College in Soldotna, Alaska Pacific University and the University of Alaska Anchorage.

While living in Anchorage, Dr. Phillips commuted to work regularly in the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta from 1975 until 1985. He initiated an alcohol education and

treatment program in the Bethel service area. He traveled to many of the 56 villages by planes and boats. A treatment facility built in the late '70s in Bethel was named the Phillips Alcohol Treatment Center.

Dr. Phillips also worked at promoting alcohol education in public schools throughout Alaska. His publications included "Here's Looking a You," an alcohol education program for grades kindergarten through 12, and "The Fourth Avenue Almanac: A Handbook for Alcoholism Counselors."

For the last 30 years, though crippled by arthritis, Dr. Phillips still managed to see patients and even make occasional house calls.

He is survived by his daughters, Susan Cushing of Homer, and Jane Beer of Sacramento, Calif.; and six grandchildren.

He will be buried in Hay Springs Cemetery next to his wife, who died in 1967.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be sent to the Dr. Francis Phillips Memorial Scholarship Fund, 2023 Loussac Drive, Anchorage 99517.

Service arrangements were by Evergreen Memorial Chapel.