

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Dr. William Alexander Jackson Ross

PERSON

Ross, William Alexander Jackson, 1937-2007

Alternative Names: Dr. William Alexander Jackson Ross;

Life Dates: November 26, 1937-January 14, 2007

Place of Birth: Detroit, Michigan, USA

Residence: Oakland, California

Work: Oakland, California

Occupations: Orthopedic Surgeon; Physician

Biographical Note

Dr. William Alexander Jackson Ross was born on November 26, 1937, in Detroit, Michigan. After receiving his high school diploma from Detroit's Cass Tech High School in 1955, Ross attended the University of Michigan from 1956 to 1958, and Wayne State University from 1958 to 1960; he earned his medical degree from Meharry Medical College in 1964.

After medical school, Ross joined the Navy's Medical Corps as an intern in 1964, and then worked as a doctor in the U.S. Navy from 1969 through 1973. Becoming a qualified submarine medical officer in 1966, Ross became the first African American submarine doctor in U.S. Navy history. Ross served aboard the U.S.S. George C. Marshall from 1968 to 1969, where he was the first African American officer to receive a Golden Dolphin Award from the U.S. Navy.

After leaving the Navy and moving to Oakland, California, Ross joined the West Oak Health Center as a consultant orthopedic surgeon and teacher; he later became the chief of orthopedics at Herrick Hospital in Berkeley, California.

A member of the Arlington Medical Group, Ross is also a member of the National Medical Association; The American Medical Association; the NAACP; and Alpha Phi Alpha. Ross and his wife, Etna, have raised four children.

Mr. Ross passed away on January 14, 2007.

Related Entries

Cass Technical High School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Sampson Elementary School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Wayne State University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

University of Michigan [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Meharry Medical College [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

US Naval Yard [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from ? to ?]

submarine doctor

West Oak Health Center [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from ? to ?]

Consulting Physician

Herrick Hospital [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from ? to ?]

Head of Orthopedics

Arlington Medical Group [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

Member

National Medical Association [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

Member

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

Member