

Edwin Schleppe , Dedicated Amateur Radio Volunteer, Dies

We at Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security (FCEM&HS) were saddened by news of the recent passing of Edwin “Ed” Schleppe. Ed died peacefully at home on July 27, 2009. He was 69.

Ed developed an interest in amateur radio as a freshman in high school and became a certified ham radio operator when he was 20 years old. Ed often worked behind the scenes, coordinating volunteers for agencies such as the State Fire Marshal’s Office and equipment for community events. He was recognized for his work as a Reserve Police Officer in the City of Pickerington 2003 Annual Report for “service during special events and parades...essential to the success of the department....”



Ed represented the Central Ohio Radio Club (CORC) on the Volunteer Organization Coordinating Council, a committee of volunteer agency liaisons who collaborate with FCEM&HS staff in support of the FCEM&HS mission to coordinate county-wide all-hazards disaster planning, community education, warning, training, grant funding, response, and recovery. After years of service to CORC, Ed received a CORC Life Membership in 2004, an honor that had not been granted in over 10 years.



Michel Moore, former Miss Ohio (center) presents Edwin Schleppe (right) and Jackie Notestone (left) of Comtech, Inc. a 2008 Consumers’ Choice Award.

Ed’s enthusiasm for radios as a hobby merged with his career in 1988, when he bought Comtech, Inc., a communication and cellular company recognized with a 2008 Consumers’ Choice Award. Radio antennae at his home and business expanded the coverage area for amateur radio operators. Ed embraced new technology throughout his life, working as the Chief Engineer at 104.9 WCVO Radio (now The River), and as Vice President of Christian Internet Radio WMCI, where he was the technician responsible for streaming radio online.

Ed’s often unseen contributions to the community will not be forgotten. We at Franklin County

Emergency Management and Homeland Security offer condolences to his family and friends and thanks to Ed for his years of dedication to the community. Ed’s obituary, service arrangements, online guestbook and condolences may be viewed online at

<http://www.spencefuneralhome.com/obit-service-schedule.jsp?site=0168&id=47683>.