

Ray's Last Move to Dawson June 26, 2026

After joining YARA, Ray Fugard, VY1RF, became really active on the YARA repeaters, coordinating the comms support for two annual international bike and foot races, and coordinating the daily Yukon and SE Alaska Emergency Preparedness Net. He monitored the system 24 hours and assisted travelers with information about road conditions, gas stations and places to stay. With locals he would "close their flight plans" when they arrived at their destination.

Ray made about a dozen residential moves in Yukon, 8 in Whitehorse, one to Keno, and 2 in Teslin. George VY1GP and Jeff VY1BG used a van and trailer for his moves. Jen, his "mother" and landlord in Teslin for a while helped him get into the senior's residence in Teslin and looked out for him there. Before coming to Whitehorse, Ray lived in Dawson City and was a DJ at the community radio station for 8 years, where he became known as "Radio Ray".

Ray always wanted to go back to "Dodge" to see his friends but poor health prevented this trip. It was fitting that his last move was back to Dawson, accompanied by VY1BG, VY1GP and Jen. While there they checked out the radio station and the remains of the Westminster Hotel, Ray's favourite watering hole.

They held a brief "Silent Key" ceremony at the grave site. [Example](#)

[Obituary](#)