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## 54/12/22 Comment of Principals on Sheppard Verdict

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# Comment of Principals on Sheppard Verdict

Principals in the trial of Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard had this to say about the jury's verdict of guilty of second degree murder:

WILLIAM J. CORRIGAN, chief defense counsel: "I don't think it was a correct verdict."

DR. RICHARD N. SHEPPARD, oldest brother of the defendant: "I think a great injustice has been done, and I feel that is the opinion of 90% of the people in the courtroom. I see nothing that established that Dr. Sam killed Marilyn.

"The decision will be reversed on appeal, or there is no justice in the United States of America."

DR. STEPHEN SHEPPARD, Dr. Sam's other brother and virtual campaign manager: "I wouldn't want to dignify the verdict by commenting on it. I don't know what Richard said, but I'll agree with him.

"My parents are desolate.

## "Verdict Fits"

"You don't know what we're going through. You can tell a child that if he touches a hot stove he'll be burned. You can tell him again and again. But he'll never know what it's really like until he gets burned."

JOHN J. MAHON, newly-elected Common Pleas judge, for whom the case was his last

prosecution in 22 years as an assistant prosecutor: "It was a fair verdict. I think it pretty well fit the evidence."

SAUL S. DANACEAU, assistant prosecutor: "Justice was done."

THOMAS J. PARRINO, assistant prosecutor: "The verdict was fair to both the defendant and the state."

JAMES E. McARTHUR, detective chief who directed the investigation which resulted in Dr. Sam's indictment: "Justice was done by 12 honorable people."

J. SPENCER HOUK, Bay Village mayor: "I commend the jurors on their diligence and respect their verdict."

DR. SAMUEL R. GERBER, county coroner who directed the early phase of the murder investigation: "The jury had a difficult task, and did a good job. I was not surprised at the length of deliberation. It would take that long to review the evidence and catalog everything in their own minds. It shows they took their time and came up with a carefully weighed decision. The verdict fits my estimation of the case."

THOMAS WEIGLE, Mari-

lyn's first cousin and a prosecution witness: "That was the proper verdict."

MRS. THOMAS REESE, Marilyn's stepmother: "We see no reason why we should express our feelings publicly."

DR. SAMUEL H. SHEPPARD, the defendant: "I am not guilty. I feel there has been evidence presented . . . that proves I could not have performed this crime."