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55/01/19 Court to Let Sam Go to Dad's Rites

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Court to Let Sam Go to Dad's Rites

Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard today was granted permission to attend the funeral of his father, Dr. Richard A. Sheppard, on Thursday afternoon in the company of deputy sheriffs.

Permission for the convicted wife slayer to attend a private service at the Saxton Funeral Home, 13215 Detroit Ave., Lakewood, and to accompany the body to Sunset Memorial Park for burial was granted by Common Pleas Judge Harry A. Hanna.

Judge Hanna, presiding in Criminal Court, said the same precautions would be taken by the deputies as when he attended his mother's funeral two weeks ago. He was handcuffed to Chief Jailer Michael Uccello at that time.

Dr. Sheppard, 64, died at Bay View Hospital of a malignant lung ailment after an illness of several months.

Sam Breaks Down

Dr. Sam was informed of his father's death when he was called from his County Jail cell to meet his two brothers, Dr. Richard N. and Dr. Stephen and their wives.

Chief Jailer Michael Uccello said Dr. Sam broke down and wept when told by Dr. Richard: "Dad passed away tonight."

The two brothers and their wives had gone directly to the jail from Bay View Hospital. They had been summoned to their father's bedside but did not arrive before he died.

Asked Return to Bay

Ill since Dec. 21, when he was admitted to Bay View Hospital, where he was chief of staff, the elder Dr. Sheppard was transferred to Cleveland Clinic Jan. 11.

He was returned to the suburban hospital Thursday night after a diagnosis of a lung ailment was completed and treatment prescribed. Members of his family said Dr. Sheppard had asked to be returned to Bay View, which he founded and considered "his life."

Death of the kindly, square-jawed father of three osteopathic physicians, was the third tragic death to strike the family within a period of about seven months.

The first of these was the July 4 bludgeon murder of Marilyn Sheppard.

The second was the suicide of Dr. Sheppard Sr.'s wife, Mrs. Ethel Niles Sheppard, in the Rocky River home of another of the couple's son, Dr. Stephen H. Sheppard. The third son is Dr. Richard N. Sheppard.

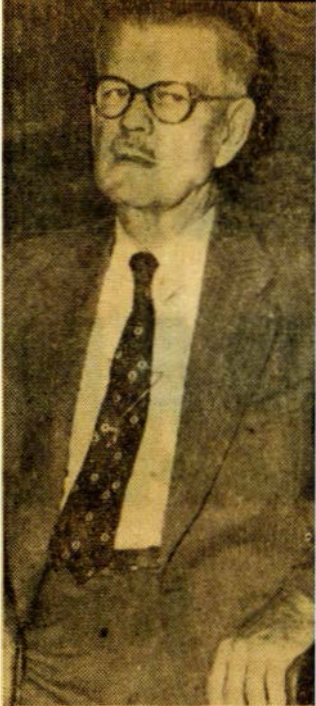
Conviction Retarded Chances

Conviction of Dr. Sam and the shock of his wife's suicide was reported to have retarded the father's chances of recovery.

The elder Dr. Sheppard was graduated from the first school of osteopathic medicine, at Kirksville, Mo., nearly 40 years ago. He set up practice first in Upper Sandusky and then moved to Cleveland some 30 years ago.

Son of a Methodist minister, Dr. Sheppard was active in Methodist Church of the Saviour, Cleveland Heights, and was a major contributor in the church's missionary work. His father had a charge at Paris, Ill., when he met and, 39 years ago, married Mrs. Sheppard whose family home was there.

Dr. Sheppard Sr. made only a few appearances at the trial of Dr. Sam. He lived near Bay View Hospital, at 23048 West Lake Rd.



DR. RICHARD A. SHEPPARD