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55/01/19 Father Of Dr. Sam Dies At 64

Cleveland Plain Dealer

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P.D. 1-19-55

FATHER OF DR. SAM DIES AT 64

Succumbs at Bay View at
10:25 P. M., 11 Days After
Wife's Death

BY JOHN G. BLAIR

Dr. Richard A. Sheppard, 64, father of Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard, died last night at 10:25 at Bay View Hospital.

His death came 11 days after the suicide of his wife, Ethel Niles Sheppard. Mrs. Sheppard shot herself in the head Jan. 7.

Dr. Sam broke down and wept at County Jail when told of his father's death. His brothers, Dr. Richard N. and Dr. Stephen A. Sheppard, accompanied by their respective wives, Dorothy and Betty, broke the tragic news.

The brothers had hurried to the jail from the hospital. Chief Jailer Michael Uccello came from his home to admit them to the jail.

Dr. Sam Slumps, Sobs

Dr. Sam was in his fourth-floor cell listening to a portable radio when summoned to the visitors' room by Uccello. Uccello said Dr. Sam knew something was wrong when he entered the room.

"You must know why we are here," Dr. Richard said, putting a hand on Dr. Sam's shoulder.

"Dad passed away tonight," he added, quietly.

Dr. Sam slumped in a chair and bowed his head in his hands, sobbing.

The brothers arrived at the jail at 11:16 and left for home at 11:35 p. m.

Immediately after they left, Dr. Sam was transferred to the closely watched observation cell in which he was placed following his mother's suicide. He had been returned to his regular cell block only a few days ago.

"Lost His Will"

Already in serious condition with pleurisy and complications, the head of the osteopathic family declined steadily after his wife's suicide.

His sons said the elderly doctor "lost his will to live" after his wife's death.

Dr. Richard and Dr. Steve were summoned to the bedside, but did not arrive before their father died. Their wives accompanied them.

During Dr. Sam's trial for the bludgeon murder of his wife, Marilyn, July 4, the elder Dr. Sheppard became ill.

A pleurisy condition became complicated. Following Dr. Sam's conviction the father's health deteriorated to some extent. Close friends said his wife's suicide would "finish him."

Last week Dr. Sheppard was transferred to the Cleveland Clinic for tests to determine if a malignancy existed in his lungs.

Carried Full Load

Following reported negative results he was returned to Bay View, the institution which he founded and built.

The hospital was close to his heart. Until tragedy struck the family last July 4, Dr. Sheppard spent most of his time there.

Despite his advancing age, he carried a full burden. During the trial he took over the surgery work of his sons so that Dr. Steve and Dr. Richard could lend moral support to Dr. Sam.

Dr. Donald E. Braunlich, an intern, was on hand when Dr. Sheppard died. He said the patient died "quietly" and was not in pain.

Earlier in the day Dr. Sheppard's condition, which had been "poor" for several days, took a sudden turn for the worse, Dr. Richard said.

The doctor, who had remained lucid during his illness, lapsed into a coma.

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DR. RICHARD A. SHEPPARD, who died after long illness.

FATHER OF SAM DIES AT BAY VIEW

P.D., 1-19-53
Succumbs at 10:25 p. m.,
14 Days After Wife

(Continued From First Page)

His illness apparently figured in his wife's suicide. Mrs. Sheppard left a note which read:

"Dear Steve—I can't manage without Dad—thanks for everything. Mother."

The couple had been extremely close. Mrs. Sheppard suffered a stroke several months ago and was cared for by her husband at Bay View. When she recovered sufficiently she returned home.

When Dr. Sheppard first became ill she was readmitted to the hospital rather than remain at home alone.

Hanna May Rule

Later she left the hospital and lived at the homes of Dr. Richard and Dr. Steve.

Apparently her lonesomeness for Dr. Sheppard was a contributing factor in her death.

It was expected Dr. Sam would seek court permission to

attend the funeral of his father.

He was permitted to attend rites for his mother, Jan. 10. Deputy sheriffs escorted Dr. Sam to the Saxton funeral home and to Sunset Memorial Park, where Mrs. Sheppard was buried.

During his trial he was permitted a visit to the bier of his wife's grandfather, Harry T. Blake.

Common Pleas Judge Harry A. Hanna, presiding in criminal court, said it was likely that any request that Dr. Sam be allowed to attend his father's funeral would come to him as presiding judge.

He said he would consult with the Appellate Court in view of actions pending before that court. He said he would determine the status of the case and which court would have jurisdiction in granting permission.

Dr. Richard Allen Sheppard, the son of a Methodist minister, was born Aug. 6, 1890, at Fostoria, O.

He was the son of Rev. and Mrs. R. D. Sheppard. The doctor's father spent most of his life in the ministry.

Dr. Sheppard spent his boyhood around Fostoria, but later the family moved to Alpha, O., near Dayton, and he was graduated from Beaver Creek Township High School.

Dr. Sheppard had heard from one of his six fellow graduates only recently. A letter from the fellow classmate, who lives in Greater Cleveland, was the first contact the doctor had had with his high school chums since about 1905.

Married in Illinois

His father was preaching in Paris, Ill., when the younger Sheppard met and married Ethel Leah Niles, a school teacher. That was in 1915.

Four years previously Dr. Sheppard had been graduated from the American College of Osteopathy at Kirksville, Mo.

He practiced for a year in Fayetteville, N. C., under the

guidance of an older doctor, and then started a general practice lasting for about 12 years in Upper Sandusky, O.

Dr. and Mrs. Sheppard moved to Cleveland Heights about 1923. He opened the Cleveland Osteopathic Clinic in Carnegie Hall on Huron Road S. E. a few years later.

Founded Hospital Here

Dr. Sheppard founded and became chief of staff of the Cleveland Osteopathic Hospital at E. 32d Street and Euclid Avenue in 1935.

The hospital was moved to its present location at 23200 West Lake Road, Bay Village, in 1948, when it was known as Dover Bay Hospital. The name was later changed to Bay View Hospital.

One of the rooms in the new hospital was dedicated to the memory of Dr. Sheppard's minister father. In 1953 the hospital was enlarged to 110-bed capacity, becoming the largest osteopathic hospital in the area.

A year ago Dr. Sheppard moved next door to the hospital. His home was at 22048 West Lake Road.

Headed State Unit

Dr. Sheppard had been chief of staff of the hospital during its entire history.

He was twice president of the Ohio Osteopathic Association and was president of the group's Cleveland section at one time.

Dr. Sheppard also was a former president of the National Osteopathic Hospital Association and the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons. That group made him a fellow and presented him a life membership for his services.

In 1944 Dr. Sheppard was given the degree of doctor of science by the Los Angeles College of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons, where he taught in the graduate school at least one month a year until 1953.

This was the college his three doctor sons attended before coming to Bay View Hospital on his staff.

Ardent Fisherman

Dr. Sheppard was a member of Al Koran Shrine and a charter member of A. A. Stephens Masonic Lodge in Bay Village.

He was a trustee of the Euclid Avenue Association and for 30 years was a member of the Church of the Saviour in Cleveland Heights before moving to Bay Village.

Dr. Sheppard was a keen sports enthusiast, and his greatest interest was in fishing. Until a few years ago he spent much of his free summer time on fishing trips.

His wife had admitted that



SAD VISIT. Dr. and Mrs. Richard N. Sheppard (right) and Dr. and Mrs. Stephen A. Sheppard as they arrived at County Jail last night to tell the doctors' brother, Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard, of the death of his father, Dr. Richard A. Sheppard.

the doctor's home, family and outside interests all were of secondary importance to his work at the hospital he built.

Besides his three sons, Dr. Sheppard is survived by his grandchildren, Samuel H. (Chip), 7, son of Dr. Sam; Janet, 9, and Carol, 6, daughters of Dr. Steve, and Jean Marie, 10, Margaret Ann, 7, and Richard A., 5, children of Dr. Richard N.