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54/08/05 Infatuated, housewife declares, met Dr. Sheppard as patient; denies marriage rumors

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Infatuated, Housewife Declares

Met Dr. Sheppard As Patient; Denies Marriage Rumors

BY DORIS O'DONNELL

An "infatuation" is the best way a Rocky River housewife said today she can describe an affair with Dr. Sam Sheppard.

The pretty, blue-eyed blond ex-patient of Dr. Sam's said her dates with him were the "first and only ones with another man" during her marriage.

She scoffed at reported rumors that she had planned a divorce, and that Dr. Sheppard also planned a divorce in order that they might marry.

"Why we never talked about such a thing," she said. "After all I have a daughter and he has a son."

Several Names Crop Up

The 27-year-old woman is the latest, and one of five whose names have cropped up in the investigation of Dr. Sheppard's private life.

She was a Bay View Hospital patient in 1953 after she suffered severe face and head cuts, a fractured skull and a broken thigh in an automobile accident.

Dr. Sam Sheppard told reporters at the time of the accident 200 stitches were needed to close the head and facial cuts.

At her spacious and attractive ranch-style home in an exclusive area of Rocky River, the former patient of Dr. Sam's talked through an aluminum screen door, only partially opening it for a short time.

Cities 'Gratitude'

She said that "perhaps gratitude" played an important part in her emotional feelings for the youthful osteopath. She shrugged her shoulders when asked to describe the "charm" Dr. Sheppard apparently has for women.

The only obvious scar on her face is an L-shaped one on the tip of her nose.

She said her husband, angry with her over the Sheppard incidents, "slapped my face."

"But that was a long time ago. The doctor has been to our home since," she said.

"Hard to Believe"

"Everyone in our set finds this so hard to believe," she said, referring to the murder of Mrs. Marilyn Sheppard.

She said she knew rumors were going around about her association with Dr. Sheppard, and she seemed both resigned and bitter.

"I suppose my picture will be all over the newspapers," she said, adding with a bitter note. "Looks like there are a lot of others in this. I might as well join the crowd."