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55/01/10 Dr. Sam Attends Rites for Mother

Cleveland News

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MSL

ACADEMIC ENDEAVORS

Dr. Sam Attends Rites for Mother

Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard left County Jail today to attend his third funeral since the murder of his wife July 4 in his Bay Village home.

The prisoner's mother, Mrs. Richard A. Sheppard, 65, will be buried in Sunset Memorial Cemetery, Olmsted Township, after services at 3 p. m. at a Lakewood funeral home.

Dr. Sam, 31-year-old osteopath, left his jail cell in October to stand for a few moments beside the bier of his dead wife's grandfather, Harry P. Blake. He also attended his wife's funeral in a wheel chair.

Shackled to Guards

For the journey to his mother's bier, Dr. Sheppard was handcuffed to Chief Jailer David Yettra. They left County Jail at 2:30 p. m. for the trip to the Saxton Funeral Home, 13215 Detroit Ave., Lakewood.

The Rev. Alfred C. Kreke, spiritual counselor to Dr. Sam since his imprisonment, delivered a sermon entitled "Soul Triumphant" at the funeral.

He said the most "serious effect on the soul is an injury to the brain area whether it is disease or stroke."

"Soul Becomes Trapped"

"One's soul becomes trapped within the body-house," he said, "as though someone pulled a shade over the window of consciousness and dimmed the light of thought, of hope and of cour-

age."

"Then it becomes utterly impossible," he said, "for the soul to express itself in a normal healthy way."

He said this was true in the case of Mrs. Sheppard who became unable to express the nature of her love for family or to offer helpful counsel and manifest her usual vital interest in the welfare of the hospital.

Recited From Poem

Mr. Kreke also recited passages from Rudyard Kipling's "If," parts of which appeared in the Rev. Ernest Fremont Tittle's work, "Achievement of Poise." Mrs. Sheppard had sent the booklet to her son, and he read it continually during his trial.

Dr. Sam also will be taken to the graveside in the cemetery at 6185 Columbia Rd.

Constable Henry W. Morrison Jr., of Olmsted Township, asked assistance from Police Chief J. D. Shirer of Olmsted Falls in handling possible crowds along Columbia Rd., and at the cemetery.

Guard Funeral Route

Police Chief George Christman of North Olmsted said he also would assign three patrolmen to Columbia Rd. to prevent tieups.

The only members of Dr. Sam's family not present at the funeral were his seven-year-old son, Chip, and his father who is ill. The boy was in school in Rocky River. The family decided against permitting him to see his father in handcuffs.

Dr. Sam, under life sentence for the murder of his pregnant wife, spent the weekend reading and sleeping.

The Court of Appeals next Monday will hear a defense application for a bond for the prisoner so he could be free during the long fight against the jury's guilty verdict.