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54/07/07 Doctors Sheppard -- United in Work, United in Tragedy

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Mrs. Richard Sheppard, mother of three doctor sons, and her grandson, Samuel (Chip) Sheppard, pick flowers around the home where the boy's mother was murdered. "Chip" has an old pipe belonging to his father.

The Doctors Sheppard, three sons and a father, administer oxygen to a patient at Bay View Hospital. They are (left to right) Dr. Stephen H. Sheppard, Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard, Dr. Richard A. Sheppard, the father of the three boys, and Dr. Richard N. Sheppard. The picture is the most recent of the Sheppards taken before the murder of Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard's wife Sunday morning.
BY ROBERT CURBEGE

Bound together all their adult lives by family and profession as osteopaths, the four Doctors Sheppard are bound today by the greatest tie of all—tragedy.

Only Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard, youngest member of the medical family, is a principal in the bizarre murder. Sunday morning of his pretty wife, Marilyn.

But almost equally concerned are all the Sheppards—his father, Dr. Richard A. Sheppard, and his two brothers, Dr. Richard N. Sheppard and Dr. Stephen H. Sheppard.

Different in Appearance

Together the four compose the guiding staff of Bay View Hospital. And never were four men with so much in common so dissimilar in appearance and action.

The elder Dr. Sheppard, a hardy, square-jawed man, sets a driving pace for his sons. But for the period of a recent illness, he has supervised all activities of the hospital from top to bottom on a whirling-dervish type of schedule which would have taken its toll of a younger man.

Dr. Sam Like Father

But the gray-haired doctor gives the appearance of a well-conditioned boxer—on his toes, ready for action at a second's notice. Even in the midst of the current investigation, he took time out yesterday to perform a delicate operation at Sandusky.

Dr. Sam is perhaps most like his father, with the same driving ambition, the same will to learn and to advance the science of saving lives. Although the youngest of the brothers at 30, it is he to whom the others have turned time and again in emergencies.

But there is a fun-loving quality in Sam not evident in the rest of the family, according to friends. He knows how to work, they say, but he also knows how to play. Among his diversions are golf, swimming and waterskiing. He owns a sport model car and lake boat.

Dr. Sam is the hospital's brain, heart and nerve specialist. But even more, he has been the one doctor always ready to answer emergency calls at any and all hours of the day and night. He is tall and husky, the athlete of the family and also the most handsome.

Dr. Richard, 37, is perhaps the most open and friendly of the Sheppards, and apparently the most stunned, outside of Dr. Sam, by the recent events.

Dr. Steve Is Spokesman

The hospital's presiding obstetrician, he also specializes in gastrointestinal ailments. Tall, stocky and deliberate in his movements, he has attempted to co-operate with authorities in every way possible.

Dr. Steve, 33, is the self-appointed spokesman for the Sheppards in the present situation. Rightly or wrongly, he has attempted to shield Dr. Sam from questioning he feels might be injurious to his recovery at this time.

Slender, prematurely gray and the shortest of the family, he seems a patient man, but a man who has been forced to carry a tremendous burden.

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

Founded Hospital in 1935

He founded the Cleveland Osteopathic Hospital in 1935 at E. 32d St. and Euclid Ave.

The boys grew up and, each in his turn, attended Cleveland Heights High School, Hanover College and the Los Angeles College of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons.

All three boys joined the father in the founding of Bay View Hospital in 1946 in the Washington H. Lawrence mansion at 23200 Westlake Rd., Bay Village. It took $500,000, most of it raised by the osteopathic profession, to remodel the 24-room home into a modern hospital overlooking the lake.

New Wing Added

A new wing, the one in which Dr. Sam is now a patient, was added last year at a cost of $385,000.

The only completely-equipped hospital between Lorain and Lakewood, Bay View daily serves all types of emergency cases, from motorists torn and broken in auto mobile accidents to small children with minor cuts.