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Tells Father-in-Law He Hopes to Identify Killer

Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard thinks he can identify the man who fatally bludgeoned his wife, Mrs. Marilyn R. Sheppard, and subsequently knocked the young doctor unconscious in the Sheppard's lakefront home in Bay Village, his father-in-law said today.

Thomas S. Reese, father of the slain woman, said he talked with Dr. Sheppard in Bay View Hospital shortly after the tragedy and that at that time the 30-year-old osteopathic neuro-surgeon said he believed he would recognize the slayer if he sees him again.

Reese, vice president of the Di-Noc Co., and his wife, Jane, appeared to be holding their emotions in check through sheer willpower when interviewed at their home at 4233 Silsby Rd., University Heights.

"It just doesn't seem possible—alive a day or so ago, and now gone," said Reese in referring to the sadistic killing of the popular young Bay Village matron and sportswoman.

Recalls First Meeting

Smoking one cigaret after another almost in chain fashion, the distraught father reviewed the happy life that Dr. Sam and Marilyn, both lovers of sports, had en-

joyed since they first met years ago at Cleveland Heights High School.

The dead woman was born in Cleveland Heights, attended Taylor Rd. Elementary School, Roosevelt Junior High and Cleveland Heights High, and later attended Skidmore School for Girls for one year.

It was while she and Sheppard were in high school, where Sheppard was a football player, that the two began keeping company.

Daughter Loved Sports

Reese said his daughter loved all sports, and was "an excellent swimmer and water-skier." He said she taught basketball for girls at Bay Village High School for two years.

The last time Reese saw his daughter alive was a week ago last Sunday when she and her husband joined the Reeses at Lakeside Yacht Club and spent the day helping fix up a new boat Reese had just purchased.

Reese said a surprise visit via the boat to the Sheppard's home at 28924 Lake Rd., planned by him and his wife for this past Sunday, was cancelled by the tragic slaying.

Instead, he was awakened by police early Sunday morning and

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FATHER

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rushed to Bay View Hospital to talk to his son-in-law.

Doctor Told of Struggle

Reese said Sheppard at that time was under a sedative and somewhat incoherent. Nevertheless he recounted grappling with the man who apparently had killed Mrs. Sheppard. He told Reese there actually may have been two men, but that he had seen only one and thought he could identify him.

Adding to the sadness and tension, Reese said he had received a number of "crank" telephone calls. He said he had advised University Heights police of the calls and was promised that the Reese home would be given special attention.

Reese and his wife also have a son, Thomas, a student at Harvard University.

Private funeral services for Mrs. Sheppard will be conducted tomorrow afternoon at the Saxton Funeral Home, 13215 Detroit Ave., Lakewood.