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Funerals of Dr. Sam Peskind and Eugene L. Geismer, 1955.

WORDS SPOKEN AT THE FUNERAL SERVICES
OF
DR. SAM PESKIND

Monday morning - November 21, 1955

by

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

My dear Friends:

The Honor Due To The Physician, which I have just read, is from the 38th Chapter of The Book of Ecclesiasticus. The author is Ben Sirach and it was written in the third century before the Common Era.

The physician was always highly honored among our people. Some of the most illustrious sons of Israel were physicians, and through the ages they made momentous contributions to the science and art of healing.

Dr. Sam Peskind belonged to this honorable profession. To it he dedicated his life and the rare and splendid gifts of his heart and mind. For it he lived, wrapped up wholly in its progress and application. He always sought new and better ways of relieving human suffering, new and better ways of healing.

Dr. Peskind's was a questing mind -- the mind of a pathfinder and pioneer. He was stopped by no orthodoxies. He was impressed by no hoary traditions held sacrosanct by some practitioners of his calling. He reached for the truth always, wherever it was to be found, among the humblest or in the least trodden ways of medical research. He was deterred by no criticism and was disheartened by no disapproval.

Dr. Peskind possessed a brilliant and an original mind. His intellectual interests were not confined to his professional field. He was at home in many domains of the intellect. At all times he was inquiring, absorbing and transmuting what his copious reading and research had garnered. He had a genius for transforming knowledge into wisdom, and for co-relating facts, gathered everywhere, into a creative synthesis of understanding and insight. To converse with him was to be enormously stimulated, mentally stirred and excited. He knew so much and he expressed himself so simply and vividly and yet so profoundly.

To Dr. Peskind his patients were his friends. He became personally identified with their lives, their families and their children. His attitude was never that of a busy practitioner, efficient, business-like and nothing more. There was a vast humanity about him, and we who were privileged to be his friends experienced it always. He was an honored and beloved member of our families and of our households.

Dr. Peskind was given to no material acquisitiveness. He hoarded nothing but learning and friendship. A life-long and distinguished service in an otherwise remunerative profession left him with little save a glorious record of human service and the love and admiration of hosts of men and women who will always be grateful for his unselfish ministry, his healing and his warm-hearted solicitude.

To my best knowledge Dr. Peskind was not formally identified

with any religious institution. But he was a deeply spiritual man. There was a rich vein of mysticism in him. He was far from accepting any philosophy of materialism to explain this mysterious and baffling universe which he confronted with great humility and reverent wonderment. In his own way he worshipped the eternal God of Life and of Truth, of Compassion and of Healing.

Dr. Peskind was a proud Jew, dedicated to the noble traditions of his people which through the ages treasured the sacred ideals of mankind -- justice, freedom, love and peace.

The memory of the righteous is an ever-lasting blessing!



EUGENE L. GEISMER

Wednesday, December 21

3:00 P.M.

15800 So. Woodland

GEISMER, EUGENE L., residence 15800 So. Woodland, beloved husband of Mollie S., father of Alan S., Mrs. Molly G. Mendelson and Mrs. Betty G. Haas of Atlanta Ga., brother of Mrs. Clara Spiegle and the late Henry Geismer, and grandfather. Date and hour of service later.



85-242
p. 1 is thinking, Eugene - I am in awe of what our Lord said.
"Every man who carries on the banner, life, and performs
the duties his calling in integrity - and courage where
~~the fellow~~ men speak well and their spirit of his fellowman is
pleased with him - it is accounted to him as if he had
perfected the entire 50% in its entirety."

For this ^{was} is the true measure of a man. To do one
work in the world - whatever it is - faithfully and honestly -
and in a way which is helpful to and acceptable to
others - is to perfect the body, the soul & the spirit.
- Eugene in his professional and business life was a man
of character - Character is that which reveals moral
purpose - showing what things a man chooses to
avoid - ~~at~~ at the heart of fine and true principles.
- And in his community life - Eugene was always aware
of the responsibilities of good citizenship. He cooperated
in every worthy cause project - and gave liberally of his
time, energy and substance to every cause and every
agency and institution whose aims were the betterment
of our common life.

~~In all the multifaceted roles~~

- He was proud of his American heritage - and
grateful for it - and values its defense - and loyal
to all that ~~was~~ contributed to the strengthening of the character
of freedom, tolerance and good will.

4. Our Mrs said. "He who love his wife & himself and
knows her more than himself and raises his children in
the way of God and with him - I him the Bible says -
Then shall know that they trust will be in peace."

- Eugene knew that his trust was ^{being put to} ~~in~~ ^{the} ~~test~~!

6/. It was a Russian poet - who wrote an elegy upon
his father - in which he said "I am like you such as I
pray mine may be". I am sure that this prayer is in
your hearts - the children, Eugene - Betty - Alan - and
Mollie Jane - and might well be the prayer, your
children.

WRHS



7/. Eccl. - "I thank his father
he was not dead. for he hath left one behind him
that is like himself"

8/.

1. One very dear to you - and to us - close (1)
 gone - eternal home

Grief is your loss - grief - Your comfort
 will come in time - well up

What you have lost - is the loss which

all families must sustain -
Death visits every home - lays its hand

"What man is there -

Some are summoned away in their prime
before half

The sorrow of bereavement is then by so much
the keener - cup - bitter

For to the foot, Death is added - unfulfilled
Others are more fortunate - Privileged to
round out a fairly complete cycle -

allotted -
allowed to go forth - until evening -

Your dear husband and father - and friend

Eugene - was among those favored
His life span almost reaches "the days -

and his life closed - as if as and (2)
he would have worked it - quietly and
peacefully - as if sleep had overtaken
him - after a long and ~~contented~~ day -
rich in accomplished labor.

2/ In thinking of Eugene - wonderful - "Every man
who carries - integrity - concerning
whom his fellowmen speak - & their spirit
is pleased -"

For this is the true measure for a man
To do one's work in the world - whatever
- faithfully, honestly - and in a way
helpful & acceptable to society
is to fulfill the teachings, the law - left

3/ Eugene - in his profess. & his life was a
man of character -"

Character is that which reveals moral
purpose - showing what things
a man chooses or avoids at the

behest -

- In his Community life - Eugene was
always aware of the responsibility of
good citizenship

He cooperated in every worthy civic
cause liberally - which aided

4/ Eugene was proud of his Am. Her.itage
- and grateful for it - zealous in -
- and loyal to all - contributed to everything
traditions of Freedom - Justice - good will

5/ He revered also - sacred traditions -
- loyal member, Household of Israel
Everything that enhanced the prestige and
influence - gladdened his heart.
Among most honored members -

6/ Loved life - many-sided sweet-rounded
loved outdoor life - good looks - voice

His mind alert - well stocked -

Trusted firm in his new connections

7/ But in an especial way - E's life
centered - home - family

Here he found comradeship - companionship
What he meant ^{by these meanings} to his beloved wife - Mollie
whose years of married - rare and
precious companionship -

Children - they knew best -

8/ Our songs say - "He who loves -

9/ Roman Port. an agony upon his father
"Your life was such as I pray mine
may be"

I am sure - that this prays - Betty -
Alan - Mollie Jane

10/ Though his father die - yet he is as though
he were not dead. for he hath left one behind
him that is like himself