

Jacob Theodore Sherman

September 5, 1898 — January 6, 1950

Jacob Theodore Sherman, Assistant Professor of Clinical Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Cornell University Medical College, died on January 6, 1950. Born on September 5, 1898 in Brooklyn, he attended the public schools, DeWitt Clinton High School and the Long Island College for premedical training. He was graduated from the New York College of Homeopathy in 1923 and interned at the Flower Hospital. After his marriage in 1936, he went to Europe for a year studying at the University of Vienna, Leipsig and Stuttgart. He was Assistant Outdoor House Surgeon at the Lying-in Hospital from August to October 1927 and House Surgeon on the Outdoor Service from October to July 1928. He was Indoor House Surgeon from September 1 to December 31, 1928. Two years later he was appointed Associate Attending Surgeon.

Several years ago he had a serious heart attack. At that time he was relieved of his teaching responsibilities and yet, even on his private cases, he continued his efforts to teach both in the delivery rooms and on the pavilions. He never missed an opportunity to give the younger members of the staff the benefit of his knowledge, for he was an avid reader, and of his experience. He had learned from his associations with the older men and especially from Dr. Jellinghaus who had taken him under his wing, so to speak. He seemed imbued with the idea so beautifully expressed by John McCrea in his poem, "In Flanders Field". "To you from failing hands we throw the torch, be yours to hold it high."

His death was not entirely unexpected; nevertheless it came with dramatic suddenness on January 6, 1950 when he dropped while waiting for an elevator and expired immediately. With intimations of the end he had left word that he preferred no ceremonies at his death, no flowers and no gathering; only a few words like Tennyson's "Crossing the Bar".

*"Twilight and evening bell,
and after that the dark
And may there be no sadness of farewell
when I embark."*

We have lost an associate, a friend, a teacher but we will retain the memories of a fine character. Brave, bold honest and true; he was a faithful comrade.

Meyer Rosensohn