

John Randolph Gepfert, Jr.

August 26, 1906 — November 16, 1965

Dr. Gepfert was born in Augusta, Georgia, August 26, 1906, and died of a cerebral hemorrhage in The New York Hospital, November 16, 1965, at the age of fifty-nine.

He was the son of Dr. John Randolph Gepfert and Georgia Collins Gepfert. His early education was in Augusta, Georgia. He graduated from the University of Georgia at Athens in 1925 and from the University of Georgia Medical College at Augusta in 1929 at the age of twenty-two. After a year's internship in Macon, Georgia, he spent a year as resident in surgery in Macon.

Dr. Gepfert married Meryl Culpepper in 1929 soon after finishing medical school. His wife and two children, John Randolph Gepfert III and Mrs. Richard G. Kopff, survive him.

He came to New York in 1931, spent a year as resident at the New York Lying-in Hospital and two years as resident in Gynecology at Bellevue Hospital. Entering private practice of gynecology and obstetrics in 1933, he continued successfully in this field until his untimely death. He was Attending Obstetrician and Gynecologist at Bellevue Hospital from 1933 to 1941. In 1941 he became associated with The New York Hospital, where he remained until his death, at which time he was an Attending Obstetrician and Gynecologist at the Lying-in Clinic of The New York Hospital and Clinical Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Cornell Medical College.

Dr. Gepfert served in the Medical Corps of the United States Navy from 1943 to 1946, being discharged with the rank of Lieutenant Commander. He was a member of the A.M.A., American College of Surgeons, American Fertility Society, American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Lying-in Alumni, Bellevue Alumni, and the Union Club.

An early interest in postoperative adhesions and postoperative complications led to Dr. Gepfert's writing several papers on the intraperitoneal use of bovine amniotic fluid and on the allantois membrane at the time of tuboplasty. He was also the author of several other papers. Throughout his life he was interested in tuboplasties and utilized many different techniques in his endeavor to restore tubal patency.

Dr. Gepfert spent endless hours teaching and training the resident staff in all aspects of infertility and obstetrics, always taking advantage of the newer knowledge available or of his own original thinking. Just before his death

he became interested in folic acid deficiency in relation to repeated abortions and had secured a gift to undertake research on this problem. A project of this nature is now being carried out in honor of Dr. Gepfert.

Charles M. McLane