

Sam Shaw Date  
Section(s)  
Byline

June 28, 2007  
Obituary

Samuel Leslie **Shaw**, a resident of St. Simons Island, died June 21, 2007, at the Brunswick hospital of the Southeast Georgia Health System.

Mr. **Shaw** was born in Newark, N.J., on April 27, 1924. The son of George and Jeanette **Shaw**, he grew up in Belleville, N.J., and attended Rutgers University before graduating from the University of Illinois.

For most of his adult life, he lived in Mount Vernon, Ill., where he was a successful insurance representative for New York Life. At one time, he held the record for selling the most policies in a single day.

Mr. **Shaw** had many interests outside his business. He was an avid sailor and spent considerable time touring the Bahamas with his beloved wife, Patricia Watson **Shaw**, whom he married in 1957.

He also loved theater and had prominent acting roles in many plays, including the University of Illinois' production of "Harvey" (in which he played the Elwood P. Dowd role made famous by Jimmy Stewart) and the Island Player's production of "The Unsinkable Molly Brown" and "Dancing at Lughnasa" on St. Simons Island. He also performed in a number of plays in Mount Vernon.

A long-time member of Rotary International, he was a well-known storyteller who opened hundreds of meetings over the years on a positive note by telling a joke or a story. He kept a notebook filled with the punch lines to his favorite stories. It was another sign of his lifelong interest in show business and entertainment.

Mr. **Shaw** was a member of St. Simons Presbyterian Church, generously contributing his time and money to many important causes and organizations over the years, including the Marion Medical Mission based in Marion, Ill. The mission builds wells for impoverished people in drought-stricken areas of Africa.

Mr. **Shaw** is survived by his wife, Patricia; three children, Harold **Shaw** of Rochester, N.Y., Leslie **Shaw** of Boonton Township, N.J., and Greg **Shaw** of Chicago; seven grandchildren; a great-granddaughter; a brother, Gregory **Shaw** of Garden City, Kan., and his wife, Valoyce; three nephews and three nieces and their families.

He was preceded in death by his son, John Livingston **Shaw**; and his other brother, Wallace **Shaw** and Wallace's wife, Doris.

A service to celebrate Samuel **Shaw**'s life will be held at 11 a.m. July 5, 2007, at St. Simons Presbyterian Church. A graveside service will be held later in Mount Vernon, Ill. Memorial contributions in Mr. **Shaw**'s honor can be made to the charity of your choice or to Marion Medical Mission.

He will be greatly missed by his family and friends.