

# Dr. Jack Hammond, funeral tomorrow

A service for Dr. Jack Hammond, former director of Willowbrook State School who most recently held a similar position at Rome State School, will be conducted tomorrow at 1 p.m. in the James Kelleher school building at the upstate institution.

Dr. Hammond, 56, suffered an apparent heart attack at approximately 2 a.m. yesterday in his home, on the grounds of the Rome school, where he had been director since late last July.

In Albany yesterday, Dr. Alan D. Miller, commissioner of the state Department of Mental Hygiene, issued a statement in which he termed Dr. Hammond, "fully and deeply a physician, gentle with his patients and unwavering in their behalf. He gave of himself absolutely and without reserve.

"He was a rare and irreplaceable human being," Dr. Miller continued. "His family, his patients and their families, his colleagues and his friends, will miss him and never find his likes again."

Dr. Hammond was also eulogized as a "compassionate and dedicated man" by Dr. Miodrag Ristic, his successor as director of Willowbrook, the state's largest institution for the mentally retarded.

"When he left Willowbrook, he was missed by the people here very deeply," Dr. Ristic said. "I am also shaken because I know Dr. Hammond died for a cause."

Attributing Dr. Hammond's death "to the kind of life he led" — one of "long hours, with never a moment of rest" — Dr. Ristic noted that, "This is what the life of a director of a place like this is like."

Friends and associates of Dr. Hammond from throughout the eastern United States are expected to attend the services in Rome tomorrow.

A native of Canada, Dr. Hammond received his undergraduate and medical degrees from Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. He was licensed to practice in New York state in 1939, served in the U.S. Navy medical corps with the rank of commander during World War II and then began a private psychiatric practice in Manhattan.

Dr. Hammond entered state service in 1952 at Willard State Hospital and became assistant director at Rome in 1959. After serving five years in that position, he left in 1964 to take control of Willowbrook, where he remained until assuming a similar position at Rome less than six months ago.

The recipient in 1967 of the Mental Hygiene Department's Distinguished Service Award, Dr. Hammond was a member of numerous medical organizations, including the Richmond County Medical Society; the New York State Medical Society; the American Medical Association; the American Psychiatric Association and the American Academy of Mental Retardation.

He also served on many committees dealing with mental health, including the New York City Area Mental Health and Retardation Committee and the American Psychiatric Association's committee on mental retardation.

Dr. Hammond is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; two sons, Robert, a surgeon at Bellevue Hospital, and David, also of Manhattan, a daughter, Susan, of Manhattan, and his parents, who lived on the grounds of the Rome institution.

Burial will be in Whitesboro, N.Y., a suburb of Utica.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that donations be made to any state chapter of the Association for Retarded Children or to the Louis Bocher Diagnostic Clinic in Brooklyn.