Sam Mullins, 30, Dies At Eldora Sunday

Sam Mullins, 30, editor and news manager of the Eldora Herald-Ledger and Hardin County Index, died early Sunday morning at the Eldora Community Hospital.

Death followed a cerebral hemorrhage suffered Friday night while Mullins was covering the Eldora Football game at Greene. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday from the Christian Church in Eldora. Burial will be in the Eldora cemetery.

A memorial fund has been established in Mullins' name.

Samuel Richard Mullins was born January 25, 1939, at Grinnell, the son of Jess and Myrtle Abbot Mullins.

He was a graduate of Grinnell High School and attended Grinnell College prior to service in the U.S. Armed Forces from August 1960 to July 1962.

In October 1969, Mullins was married to Zelora Casady at Unionville, Missouri.


On July 2, 1968, he suffered a cerebral hemorrhage and was hospitalized in Iowa City. He returned to work after a two-months recovery period.

An outdoor enthusiast, Mullins was a member of the Fins Lake Wildlife Club, the Eldora Athletic Club. He was also a member of the Christian Church, a former Kiwanian, Jaycee and member of the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.

Survivors include his wife; two sons, Samuel Richard, Jr., and Stuart Van, both at home, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jess Mullins of Grinnell; three brothers—Clay of Knoxville, James of Grinnell, and Edwin of Phoenix; three sisters—Mrs. James (Dorothy) Hill of Louisville, Kentucky; Mrs. Norman (Mary) Tuttle of Gilman, and Mrs. Mark (Leta Faye) Rasmussen of Nevada.
Mullins, Samuel Richard (01/25/1939–09/21/1969). Sam Mullins from the town of Grinnell was at the College for one semester (1957-58) where he was affiliated with Gates Hall. From 1959 to 1962 he was in the U.S. Army. In September 1962 Sam joined the staff of the Eldora, Iowa newspaper as a newsman, sports editor and photographer, eventually becoming its Editor and News Manager. In July 1968 he suffered a cerebral hemorrhage that required hospitalization and a two-month recovery period. Afterwards, Sam lived by this motto under the glass top of his news desk: "No matter what you do--do it right and be the best at it!"

On September 19, 1969, Sam suffered another cerebral hemorrhage while covering a high school football game for the newspaper, and he died the following Sunday. The newspaper stated Sam was an amiable man, a considerate co-worker, friend and devoted husband and father.

Sam was survived by his wife, Zelora Cassady Mullins, their two sons (Samuel R., Jr. and Stuart Van Mullins), his parents, three brothers and three sisters. (Rites Tuesday for Sam Mullins, 30, H-I News Editor, Eldora Herald-Ledger, p. 1, Sept. 23, 1969; A Tribute--Sam Mullins, Eldora Herald-Ledger, p.2, Sept. 23, 1969.)