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Judaism Pardons Him, Says Rabbi

Ruby's Eulogy: A Misguided Patriot

BY JEFF LYON

The eulogy for Jack Ruby will stress "forgiveness for a misguided patriot" when the slayer of assassin Lee Harvey Oswald is buried tomorrow wearing the traditional Jewish prayer shawl and skullcap.

Rabbi David Graubert said he will speak of Ruby's "terrible emotional anguish over President Kennedy's death and will paint him as a victim of the forces at work in his personality."

Rabbi Graubert will conduct private services at 10 a. m. tomorrow in the Original Weinstein & Sons chapel at 3019 Peterson av. Ruby will then be laid to rest in Westlawn cemetery, 7801 Montrose av., beside the graves of his parents.

Family to See Body

An emotion-charged scene is expected at the chapel today when the bronze coffin is opened to allow immediate family to view the body.

A police guard is to be on duty at the chapel thru the funeral to protect the family from curiosity seekers, said Hershey

Weinstein, president of the funeral home.

Weinstein said the chapel has received several threatening phone calls, but he said they were obviously the work of cranks.

Ruby, 35, born in the west side slums of Chicago, died

Tuesday in Parkland hospital in Dallas of a blood clot and cancer. The Dallas nightclub owner had been awaiting a new trial for the murder Nov. 24, 1963, of President Kennedy's assassin.

Plans Traditional Rites

Rabbi Graubert, presiding rabbi of Bet Din of the Chicago Region of the Rabbinical association, spoke with CHICAGO'S AMERICAN as he composed his eulogy.

The rabbi described tomorrow's services as "traditional Conservative Jewish rites." There will be no visitation, and the coffin will remain closed. Ruby will not be clad in a shroud, as in Orthodox Jewish services.

Rabbi Graubert said his eulogy will be partially concerned with Ruby's fatal shooting of Oswald in the Dallas jail before millions of television viewers.

"I intend to point out that when a man does a thing of this kind, it is because something did not click in his mind. Judaism tells us that no one sins unless he is at the time somewhat unbalanced.

"Loved His Leader"

"I will say that Jack Ruby was a misguided patriot," Rabbi Graubert said. "He loved his leader and was terribly involved with President Kennedy's death. This was basically a revenge of that death. With insight into the man's personality, we must have sympathy, understanding, and forgiveness."

The rabbi said the law might have realized Ruby's aberrations eventually. "But I will tell of how religion functions at another level, going beyond the

will explain that in

Judaism death offers forgiveness for sins. It settles all accounts, and pardons a man for whatever he did. Thru Judaism a man scales the ladder thru-out his life, and in the hereafter he has a second chance.

"Man is not the master of his own destiny," the rabbi said. "He is the victim of the forces at work in his personality."

Reading of Psalms

The rabbi said tomorrow's rites will include the reading of the 8th and 23d Psalms and the reciting of the Kaddish, the Jewish prayer for the dead, at the graveside.

Rabbi Graubert said he did not know Ruby personally.

"I have been told, tho, that he was a very religious man. He was a member of Shearith Israel synagogue in Dallas, and on the day of the assassination he attended a memorial service for the late President."

Spokesmen for Weinstein & Sons said a headstone would not be placed on Ruby's grave for a year.

"This is partly because of Jewish tradition, and partly because of the threat of desecration of the grave by the curious," the spokesman said. "We would hope in a year that all will be forgotten."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

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CHICAGO AMERICAN
 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

1-5-67

Date: _____
 Edition: 3 STAR FINAL
 Author: JEFF LYON
 Editor: LLOYD WENDT
 Title: JACK RUBY

Character: 44-645
 or

Classification: _____
 Submitting Office: CHICAGO
 Being Investigated

44-3011-1

NOT RECORDED

File 2-1-67

55 JAN 23 1967