

Agnew Goes To Rites for Half Brother

By Jim Landers

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RANDALLSTOWN, Md., Oct. 11—Spiro T. Agnew, accompanied by his wife and mother-in-law, paid final respects to his half-brother here today at a funeral overshadowed somewhat by events that transpired in a Baltimore courtroom yesterday.

Arriving shortly after 1 p.m. in a chauffeured government limousine, the former Vice President showed little sign of emotion as he escorted Mrs. Agnew and her mother Judith Fine into the Loring Byers Funeral Chapel for the service for his half-brother, W. Roy Pollard. He died Tuesday after suffering a stroke, ending a long illness.

Only one hour after the dramatic courtroom announcement of his resignation yesterday, Agnew made a visit to the funeral home with his wife, Judy, and daughter Susan.

At one point during the visit, Agnew and his wife paused to speak to a small group of friends of the deceased.

"Someone said, 'What about the Vice President', and Mrs. Agnew said, 'You mean the former Vice President,'" said the Rev. Richard Wells Russell, who performed the services here today.

"He said that his action was a difficult compromise that he had to make," said Mr. Russell.

"It (the news of Agnew's resignation) had just hit the radios, and I didn't feel at that particular place and time that I should say anything to him about it," said Mr. Russell in recalling yesterday's visit. Mr. Russell is the minister of the Emmarts United Methodist Church.

The service at the funeral chapel closed to the more than 60 reporters and cameramen who showed up, lasted



By Douglas Chevalier—The Washington Post

Former Vice President Agnew kisses a relative after rites for his half brother.

20 minutes. Mr. Russell said he read selections from the Bible and led the group of about 40 guests in prayer.

"Tell me what to do, O Lord and make it plain because I am surrounded by my enemies," Mr. Russell recalled reading at the service for the 67-year-old Pollard.

Agnew, dressed in a black suit, white shirt and gray tie, joined the funeral procession that made its way to the Woodlawn Hills Memorial Cemetery. His wife, Judy, rode at his side, dressed in a navy blue suit and wearing sunglasses.

Agnew's half-brother, Pollard, was a retired Balti-

more insurance executive. Agnew's father married Pollard's mother.

At the cemetery, Agnew led his wife and mother-in-law through a crowd of cameramen and reporters up to the plain gray coffin with silver handles bearing the body of his half-brother.

Agnew then detached himself from the crowd of mourners and walked back down the gently sloping hill to escort his aunt, Lillian Akers, back to the gravesite.

That walk drew the complete attention of the crowd, which turned almost as one to watch Agnew's solitary steps. The former vice president walked with his shoul-

ders back, looking straight ahead.

Agnew, with Mrs. Akers at his side, walked slowly back up the hill, seated Mrs. Akers before the coffin, and then stood with his arms crossed behind her chair through the graveside service.

"Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death . . ." read Mr. Russell.

After the burial service, Agnew accompanied Mrs. Akers back to the waiting limousines, pausing once to glance up at the newsmen. His wife, her face lined and drawn, followed with her mother at her arm.