

Notes on People by Laurie Johnston

The late Martha Mitchell "never gave up the lingering idea that 'those guys' of the Nixon Administration had induced her fatal illness "from bone marrow cancer, according to Dr. Klaus Mayer, who treated her before her death last Memorial Day. Mrs. Mitchell's blaming of the tranquilizers with which she was injected at the outbreak of the Watergate scandal was "a highly inaccurate supposition," Dr. Mayer is quoted as saying in The Ladies Home Journal in an article by Helen Thomas of United Press International, a confidante of Mrs. Mitchell.

Although John Mitchell, the former Attorney General, did not visit his estranged wife during her illness, Dr. Mayer said, "I don't think it was hostility, or that he didn't care. But the last thing he wanted was another blow-up with her, for her sake." After her death, Dr. Mayer said, "It appeared to me that [Mr. Mitchell] was sincerely moved and saddened."