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Hughes 'Heir' Goes Into Shock

Willard, Utah

Melvin Dummar, a service station operator named as a partial beneficiary in the purported Howard Hughes will, was in hiding yesterday after he reportedly suffered an emotional collapse and was placed under a doctor's care.

Dummar's father, Arnold Dummar, 63, said his son has appeared on several television game programs, once winning an automobile and a deep freeze. But word of a possible fortune—one-sixteenth of a possible \$1.5 billion—which Dummar says is the result of his picking up a hitchhiker who identified himself as Howard Hughes, left the 31-year-old Dummar crying all night, his father said.

The elder Dummar said his son was under a doctor's care.

In California, acquaintances and game show employees said Melvin Dummar won prizes and cash three times, but a former employer said Dummar left California in 1974 owing nearly \$5000.

Bill Matilla, a supervisor at

Rockview Dairies in Downey, Calif., said Dummar was employed as a milk route driver from April 1, 1971, to Nov. 26, 1974, when he left owing \$4889 in unpaid milk bills.

A suit was filed against Dummar by the Alpert Collection Service of Whittier.

Ron Brown, Dummar's cousin, who is handling his financial affairs, acknowledged that the suit had been filed, but Brown said a countersuit was being prepared because of a discrepancy in the company's figures.

Dummar won \$2559 in merchandise when he appeared on "Let's Make a Deal" on May 13, 1970. He appeared a second time, last October 8, and won \$1500 in merchandise.

He was a contestant on "Hollywood Squares" on May 13, 1975, winning \$500 in cash and a 1975 Pontiac automobile.

"If I had to sum him up in one line, it's as a very nice Mormon boy," said Ida Mae McKenzie, contestant coordinator for "Hollywood Squares."

Associated Press