

Obituaries

Russell L. Chernick, 23; former MD poster child won area, national awards

CHERNICK, RUSSELL

CRANSTON — Russell L. Chernick, 23, of 46 Eldridge St., former Rhode Island poster child for muscular dystrophy, died yesterday at Rhode Island Hospital.

He served a two-year term as Rhode Island poster child from 1972 to 1974.

He was a Rhode Island College graduate, class of 1981, and was doing graduate studies at RIC. He was a three-time winner of the Rhode Island State Science Fair from 1974-1976, and won the U.S. Army medallion for outstanding exhibits at the science fair.



Russell was instrumental in getting an elevator installed at Cranston East High School and dedicated it to the memory of his late brother, Stuart, who died of muscular dystrophy in 1978.

He won the award of merit given by the Rhode Island Osteopathic Assn. and was the national winner

of the Muscular Dystrophy Christmas card designing contest. He appeared with Jerry Lewis in 1974 on the telethon and was instrumental in raising \$100,000 with the card he designed, featuring a Colonial village.

He was a charter member of the Handicapped Awareness Organization; a member of Who's Who among American College and University Students in 1981; a member of the Muscular Dystrophy Association and the Radio Club of RIC. He was the announcer for the girls' varsity basketball team at Rhode Island College for three years.

Born in Providence, he was a son of David and Tina (Korner) Chernick, both of Cranston.

Besides his parents, he leaves two sisters, Anita Chernick and Cynthia Gabrilowitz, both of Providence.

The funeral service will be held tomorrow at 10 a.m. at the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St. Providence. Burial will be in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.