JUH 6-24-05

KORET,
DR. SYDNEY

Dr. Sydney Koret, 89

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — Sydney Koret, Ph.D. died June 19 in Rochester. He was the husband of Alice Elsie Lecht Koret for 46 years until her death in 1993. Born in Providence, he was the son of the late Hyman and Anna Weiss Koret. He graduated from Thayer Elementary School and Hope High School, and was an Eagle Scout active in the Jewish Community Center.



He enlisted in the Army Air Corps in World War II and rose to the rank of Captain, completing 37 missions in Europe as a bombardier and navigator, decorated for his accomplishments and bravery including the Distinguished Flying Cross and the French Croix de Guerre. On two occasions his planes were shot down and once he landed behind enemy lines, returning to safety via the French Underground.

Following his Army service, he completed his B.A. at the University of Rhode Island and later received his M.S. and Ph.D. at Boston University. He served for two years as a psychiatric social worker at the Rhode Island State Hospital for mental diseases. From there he moved to the Emma Pendleton Bradley Hospital in Riverside where he served as chief psychiatric social worker.

In 1958 Dr. Koret went to the Convalescent Hospital for Children in Rochester to construct and direct a new residential treatment center. Over 30 years as the hospital's director, he was instrumental in converting it into the first comprehensive community mental health center for children in the United States, with residential and day treatment, preschool, summer camps, consultation, outpatient services, research and training, foster and group homes.

In 1988, Dr. Koret became president of the American Association of Psychiatric Services for Children.