

*Christ Episcopal Church Cemetery Inventory*

State and Water Streets, Dover DE 19903

Lot Number: 114 Space: I (old G-154)

Find A Grave # 11904281

Name: **Chase, Dr. James McAllister Jr.**

Birth date: October 1, 1932 Death date: January 15, 1971 Burial Date: January 20, 1971 Age: 38  
b. Wilmington, DE

Spouse: Retta H. Chase

Children: Jeffrey McAllister Chase; Jill Melissa Chase

Parents: James Chase Sr. and Edna M. *Sheppard* Chase

Siblings:

Residence: Dover, DE

Cause of death/Burial/Obituary: plane crash in Rutland, VT; see next pages

Service/occupation information: US Air Force 2 years, Chief of surgeons, CA; medical doctor - surgeon

Officiate: Rev. Gregory Howe

Lot Owner: Retta Chase Zimmerman

Inscription:

+  
James M. Chase Jr., MD  
October 1, 1932  
January 15, 1971

DIMENSIONS: H 39" x W 31" x D 12"

STYLE: headstone

Repairs needed: cleaned 2022



Inventory date: April 10, 2020 Recorder: Ted George

# Crash probe points to trouble

News Journal, Monday, Jan. 18, 1971

(Continued From Page One)

had been made of most airfields between Rutland and Dover.

At the controls of the Cherokee was Gamberg, state police said. His copilot was Dr. Chase. Seated behind them were Hastings, Smith, and Mitten.

The crash site is about two miles from the nearest dirt road, state police said, and the rescue party used 15 snowmobiles, to reach the scene.

**THE single-engine, six-passenger**, aircraft had been hired from Delaware Aviation of North Philadelphia, a subsidiary of Atlantic Aviation of Wilmington.

Services for Mr. Gamberg will be Wednesday morning at 11 at the Torbert Funeral Chapel, Reed and Brasford Sts., Dover.

Mr. Gamberg was the owner of the Simon Department Store, on Loockerman St. in Dover. He served as a glider pilot in the Air Force during World War II. He was a native of Philadelphia.

He is survived by his wife, the former Sherie Simon; three daughters, Andrea, Betsy and Gaby, a son, Richard; his father, Abraham Gamberg of Philadelphia; a brother, Robert of Abington, Pa., and a sister, Mrs. Helen Lilienfeld of Philadelphia.

**INTERMENT WILL BE IN** Sharon Hills Memorial Park, and the family asks that flowers be omitted.

Services for Dr. Chase will be Wednesday at 2 p.m. at Christ Church, Dover.

Dr. Chase, of 575 Westwood Ave., Woodbrook, Dover, was a Dover vascular surgeon. Born in Wilmington, he graduated from

Henry C. Conrad High School in 1949, from the University of Maryland in 1952, and from its medical school in 1956.

He served two years in the Air Force, and was stationed at Castle Air Force Base, California, where he served as chief of surgical services. He moved to Dover in 1963.

**HE is survived by his wife**, Mrs. Retta H. Chase; a son, Jeffrey McAllister Chase, a daughter, Jill Melissa Chase, and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James M. Chase Sr. of Wilmington.

Interment will be in the cemetery of Christ Church, Dover. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to the Kent County Heart Association, the American Cancer Society or to a favorite charity.

Services for Mr. Hastings will be tomorrow at 1 p.m. at Peoples United Church of Christ, Dover.

Mr. Hastings was born in Berlin, Md., and had lived in Dover since 1946. He was a member of Peoples United Church of Christ, Dover City Council, the Dover Rotarians, and the Dover YMCA.

**SURVIVING are his wife**, Sarah Hastings; two sons, Jeffrey and David; and three daughters,

Beth, Nancy, and Carol, all at home; and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Orlando Hastings of Berlin, Md.

Interment will be in Lakeside Cemetery. The family suggests that in lieu of flowers contributions be made to the Kent General Hospital Building Fund, Dover.

Services for Mr. Smith will be tomorrow afternoon at 2:30 in Christ Church, Dover.

Mr. Smith was chairman of the Democratic Party for Kent County and owner of J. G. Smith Autos, Inc., of Dover. He also owned radio station WNRK in Newark and station WARV in Warwick, R.I. He was formerly director of the Delaware River and Bay Authority.

He was born in Harrington, and graduated from Phillips Academy, Andover, Mass. and Johns Hopkins University.

**HE is survived by his wife**, the former Sarah E. Townsend; a son, James G. III; a daughter, Elizabeth; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James G. Smith Sr. of Dover; a brother, Charles Murphy Jr. of Milford; and two sisters, Mrs. Sherman Leland Jr. of San Francisco and Mrs. F. Martin Taylor of Wilmington.

Interment will be in the Christ Church Cemetery, Dover. In lieu of flowers the family suggests

that contributions be made to the building fund of Kent General Hospital in Dover.

Services for Mr. Mitten will be tomorrow at 10 a.m. at People's United Church of Christ, Bradford and Reed Sts., Dover.

Mr. Mitten was president and owner of W. B. Mitten & Sons Inc., a Dover contracting firm. He was a member of People United Church of Christ, of Union Lodge No. 7, AF&AM, of which he was a Past Master, and president of Mason Hall Corp. He also was a member of the Delaware Consistory, the Nur Temple, the Tall Cedars of Lebanon, and the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.

**HE was a retired captain** in the Delaware National Guard and a past president of the National Sojourners.

Surviving are his wife, Lorna E. Mitten; a son, Mathew E. Jr.; three daughters, Yvonne Elaine, Denise Sue, and Holly Michele, all at home; his mother, Mrs. Regina S. Mitten of Dover; two brothers, Robert S. of Seattle, Wash.; and William B. Jr. of Dover; and a sister, Mrs. Regina M. Marshall, also of Seattle.

Interment will be in Barratts Chapel, Frederica. The family suggests that in lieu of flowers contributions be made to the Delaware Heart Association.

# Dr. Chase praised by partner

From the Dover Bureau

DOVER—"He was an outstanding surgeon and an outstanding physician." This is part of the impression Dr. James J. Chase Jr. left on his partner, Dr. James R. McNinch. Since 1963 the two surgeons practiced together here, most recently in their office at 905 S. Governors Ave.

"I'm crushed," McNinch said Saturday as he learned that no one survived the crash of the plane in which Chase rode.

"I've lost a good friend and an outstanding surgical associate. You can't be associated in surgery for seven years without becoming extremely close to a man," he said.

McNinch recalled that his partner's non-medical enthusiasms were his family, tennis, flying and skiing.

As a doctor, McNinch said Chase had "outstanding competence in everything. He was just a great physician. He was an extremely competent surgeon and his patients all had a high regard for him.

Chase took both his undergraduate and his medical degrees from the University of Maryland. He was president of the Kent County Heart Association and active in the American Cancer Society.

Chase was on the staff at Kent General Hospital and held memberships in the Kent County and Delaware State Medical Societies, and the American Medical Association.



The News Journal, Wilmington, DE, Wednesday, January 20, 1971  
January 18, 1971

## A Delaware Tragedy

**A** DISASTER is defined as a calamitous event, especially one occurring suddenly and causing great damage or hardship, thus a word in appropriate use to describe what has happened to Kent County with the death of five of its residents—all men under 50, three 40 or under—in a plane crash.

Kent, the county of the state capital, is a community small enough to let the intimacy of one death afflict the minds and hearts of all, an area where a Dover man is sure to know the Harrington man or his family, a place broad enough in its geography yet close in its family feeling.

James Gordon Smith Jr., 40, was an auto dealer and radio station owner who was chairman of the Kent County Democratic Committee; Dr. James McAllister Chase Jr., 39, was a vascular surgeon in an area where there is no abundance of medical men; David Gamberg, 49, was a merchant who believed his community needed doers

as well as sayers; Turner B. Hastings, 46, was a businessman who didn't shirk civic responsibility, and Mathew E. Mitten, 40, was a contractor whose belief in civic action also took him into an active role in Democratic politics.

Each of them, then, is an individual loss to his community. Taken all at once, it is a severe loss to their county and to their state.

Just before leaving on the ski trip, Mr. Smith told an interviewer, "Politics is the life blood of a government. It's the most vital thing an average citizen can do and, while that's high-sounding, it's damn true."

And, speaking of his beloved Kent County and its neighbor, Sussex, he said, "It's just that we seem more gentlemanly down here."

The five gentlemen believed in reaching out to touch their community. Now that they are gone the state-community — Kent, Sussex and New Castle—can only voice sorrow.

News Journal, Wed., Jan. 20, 1971

The News Journal, Wilmington, DE

His partner, Dr. James R. McNinch, said Dr. Chase had "outstanding competence in everything. He was a great physician. He was extremely competent surgeon and all his patients had high regard for him."

Dr. Chase, a graduate of the University of Maryland, was president of the Kent County Heart Association and was active in the American Cancer Society. He was on the staff of Kent General Hospital.

**HE was a member of the Kent County and Delaware Medical societies and the American Medical Association.**

Services for Dr. Chase will be Wednesday at 2 p.m. at Christ Church, Dover.

Dr. Chase was a vascular surgeon. He was born in Wilmington and graduated from Henry C. Conrad High School in 1949, from the University of Maryland in 1952, and from its medical school in 1956.

He served two years in the Air Force, and was stationed at Castle Air Force Base, Calif., where he served as chief of surgical services. He moved to Dover in 1963.

**HE is survived by his wife, Mrs. Retta H. Chase; a son, Jeffrey McAllister; a daughter, Jill Melissa Chase; and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James M. Chase Sr. of Wilmington.**

Interment will be in the cemetery of Christ Church, Dover. In

### **Dr. James Chase**

gests contributions to the Kent County Heart Association, the American Cancer Society or to a favorite charity. -----