Dr. Herman Albert Fasbender

Herman Fasbender was born on January 18, 1894 in Hastings, Minnesota to Peter Fasbender (1848-1916) and Katherine Brigetta Freiermuth Fasbender (1856-1939). His father Peter was born in Germany and his mother Martha was born in Wisconsin. An early settler to the Hastings area, Peter owned a grocery store. The couple had 13 children.

Herman graduated from Hastings High School in 1913. By the time he registered for the draft on June 5, 1917 he was a medical student at the University of Minnesota. He enrolled in the S.A.T.C. (Student Training Corps) there anticipating that he would be going overseas to work in one of the several base hospitals in France. He was assigned to Company Three, Second Regiment. The war ended before he could finish and he returned to his studies at the University of Minnesota Medical School. He did his residency at Northwest Hospital in Minneapolis. He then worked at Central Hospital in Chicago, Illinois for one year before returning to Hastings, Minnesota to open his own practice. Dr. Fasbender partnered with his brother-in-law Dr. L.D. Peck to open St Raphael’s Hospital in Hastings where he worked as a physician and surgeon until he died. Herman was also active in political and civic responsibility. He was City Council Alderman for four years and then Mayor of Hastings for three terms. He was serving his third term as mayor when he died.

Herman married Marie Margaret Niedere (1905-1995) on June 20, 1921. The couple had six children including Robert Francis Fasbender who died in World War II. He served in the U.S. Navy in the South Pacific. During an attack on the Motobu Peninsula, Robert crawled to give first aid and to move Sergeant Rufus J. Rogers of Richmond Hill, Georgia out of enemy fire. He reached the Marine but was killed in the process. Sergeant Rogers survived and years later, he and his mother reached out to thank the Fasbender family. Herman died on January 7, 1948 just days before his 59th birthday. He had been sick for several months and was being cared for at Northwest Hospital in Minneapolis where he did his internship many years before. He is buried in the St Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Cemetery in Hastings, Minnesota.

Herman also had an older brother, John Peter Fasbender who served in WWI.