

the forgotten asset

of such nature in an estate, but rather, unfortunately, because of the paintings Mom or Dad owned or the collection of Royal Doulton figurines, silver, furniture, etc., on which there has not been placed a current market value.

Another problem can be easily avoided by proper planning and keeping abreast of the current laws as they apply to this type of asset. For example: an estate in Rochester existed where the heirs had been legally deeded several paintings a number of years before, but where possession had been maintained by the parents. This was a perfectly legitimate situation at the time of the deeding of the paintings.

However, subsequently, the tax laws changed and at the death of the parents, the estate became liable for taxes on these objects because they were still in the parents' possession. The family had not kept up with the changes in the law and thus suffered an additional tax burden of almost \$100,000.

If a family has any conceivable idea that its personal property could have more than a nominal value, then a competent appraisal of the personal property should be obtained and the results of this appraisal discussed and made a part of any estate plan that a family might develop through its attorney, financial advisor or accountant.

The appraisal should be updated ap-

proximately every three years and the family should be sure that it is advised about any changes in the tax laws on a periodic basis.

Frank Boos is president of Frank H. Boos Gallery, Bloomfield Hills.

Let children grieve

Continued from Page 5

to stay in his or her room. Parents needs to start up family activities as soon as they are able.

Also, the living child may be carrying a burden of guilt. When they see the family grieving, they often think, "It should have been me." Reassure them that, while you're sad, you would never wish one child's death over another.

• Teachers of a grieving child should bring up the subject of the death when the child returns to school. Talking briefly about it, even if it brings tears, is less stressful than no mention of the death at all.

• Don't hide your own grief. Billy understands if, when he asks his father to play ball, his father says, "I just don't want to right now. I'm thinking about grandpa and I'm feeling a little sad."

• Let the child know that it's OK to talk about the death. But don't be offended if the child chooses not to, and goes off to play instead.

Life Goes On...



Diane M. O'Connor, M.A. has worked with every aspect of grief, dying, and significant loss. She is an expert at helping people find ways to deal with their feelings of pain, sorrow and the finality of death.

Lynch & Sons Funeral Directors are proud to present our Grief Specialist, Diane M. O'Connor. She brings her extensive experience in grief counseling to our community through our LIFE CYCLES Program Survivors Support Group.

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MEETING DATES:

October 13, 1986
November 10, 1986
December 8, 1986
January 12, 1987
February 9, 1987
March 9, 1987

TOPICS:

When a Child Dies: Facing the Emotional Devastation
Terminal Illness, The Last Stage of Life, Caring & Coping • Planning
The Holidays - I Don't Want To Do Them This Year
Coping Strategies: Dealing With Suicide
The Razor's Edge: Depression & Despair
How To Find a Purpose When My Purpose Is Gone

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