

St. Petersburg tie May 5, 1994

Jury finds man not guilty of murder in son's stabbing

By Sue Carlton

Times Staff Reporter

Tampa –

When a father killed his son at the Riverview home last year, was it Second-degree murder or self-defense?

A Jury deliberated in the night Tuesday in the case of 61- year old Robert Jackson Parker, charged with stabbing his son to death the morning of September 18, 1993.

Their verdict after four hours of deliberation: not guilty.

Hillsborough prosecutor Robert Shimberg accused Parker of "a savage attack on his son." Kenneth Parker, 37. But Parker's attorney said the elder man acted in self-defense only after his son attacked him.

"Kenneth Parker, as he went after his father that nightmean, for absolute certainty, to kill his father, attorney Mark Gatesman said.

The younger Parker stabbed his father in the arm after an argument over either beer or a television show. The then got a knife and stabbed his son in the stomach killing him.