

Mrs. Marie Ames Byrd, 85, Antarctic explorer's widow

Mrs. Marie Ames Byrd, of 9 Brimmer St., Beacon Hill, Boston socialite and widow of Rear Adm. Richard E. Byrd, Antarctic explorer, died today at her home. She was 85.

She was born Jan. 19, 1889, and spent her early childhood in the family home on Beacon Hill. She was educated at Windsor School, Boston, and at the Convent of the Sacred Heart in Paris, and in Baltimore, where she excelled in mathematics and finance.

Mrs. Byrd was a member, accomplished violinist, active in the Junior League and the Vincent Club.

She was the matriarch of one of the country's most illustrious families, the Byrds, extending from the Shenandoah Apple Valley of Virginia to Boston's Beacon Hill.

Mrs. Byrd was member of the Mayflower Descendants, Daughters of the American Revolution, and the National Society of Colonial Dames.

Also The Chilton Club, of which her mother was a charter member; the Horticultural Society, the Tennis and Racquet Club,

The Country Club, the Dedham Polo and Country, the Norfolk Hunt Club, the Essex Country Club, the Somerset Club, of which her husband was a member; the National Geographic Society, and the American Museum of Natural History. She was also a trustee of many groups, including the Byrd Foundation.

After the death of her aviator-explorer husband, she carried on many phases of his work, including the direction and operation of the office of Admiral Byrd at the family residence on Brimmer st.

Mrs. Byrd leaves a son, Comdr. Richard E. Byrd, Jr.; two daughters, Mrs. Bolling Byrd Clarke of Chestnut Hill, Pa., and Mrs. Katherine Ames Byrd Breyer of Los Angeles; a sister, Mrs. George (Katherine Ames) Lafayette Washington of Bryn Mawr, Pa., and 13 grandchildren.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete.

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Obituary for Marie Ames Byrd (Aged 85)

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