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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 31, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

MILDRED LEONARD

FROM:

JIM CONNOR *JEC*

The attached clipping was returned in the President's outbox.
It is forwarded to you for appropriate action.

Attachment:

NEW YORK TIMES article May 29, 1976

Obituary Notice on Abby Rockefeller Mauze

Abby Rockefeller Mauze Is Dead at 72

By ALBIN KREBS

Abby Rockefeller Mauze, only daughter and the eldest of the six children of John D. Rockefeller Jr., died Thursday of cancer at her Manhattan home. She was 72 years old.

Mrs. Mauze, widow of the retired banker Jean Mauze, was a leading philanthropist, who had a deep interest in the welfare of hospital patients, particularly those suffering from cancer. She had served on the board of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and was one of its chief benefactors.

Although in her youth she was known as the most rebellious of the six Rockefeller children, in later life Mrs. Mauze was known as "the quiet Rockefeller," preferring to stay in the background while her five brothers won fame.

Mrs. Mauze whose grandfather, John D. Rockefeller, was founder of the Standard Oil fortune and eventually a philanthropist of great renown, was always called Babs by her brothers and others in the family, to distinguish her from her mother, Abby Aldrich Rockefeller, daughter of Nelson W. Aldrich, Senator from Rhode Island.

Along with her brothers, John D. Rockefeller III, Winthrop and David, Mrs. Mauze was given a dignified religious upbringing, but none of the children's lives were made deliberately Spartan by their parents.

Far from it. Whenever young Abby went skating, her father dispatched a limousine to follow her playful wanderings, and when she grew tired, she could hop in and be driven home for a nap.

Her doting father built for her on the family estate, Pocantico Hills, a doll's house consisting of four fully furnished rooms, which was comparable in size to that of a one-bedroom apartment in today's New York. She had plenty of outdoor space to romp in, since the Rockefeller estate, in Westchester County, covers an area 10 times the size of Monaco.

Extensive Travels

Mrs. Mauze, who was born in New York on Nov. 9, 1903, attended Miss Chapin's School and Brearley, and on Nov. 22, 1922, was introduced to society at a musicale and reception of about 200 guests. Mischa Elman, the violinist, and Josef Bonine, pianist, were engaged to entertain the guests.

The previous year, Mr. and Mrs. Rockefeller had taken their daughter out of school so she could accompany them on

China, where Mr. Rockefeller had business interests.

Miss Rockefeller was a childhood friend of David M. Milton, whose family had an estate near the Rockefellers' in Tarrytown. The two families also had summer homes at Seal Harbor, Me. In February 1925, their engagement was announced.

The betrothal followed a front-page brouhaha the year before, involving Miss Rockefeller's twice being charged with speeding while driving Mr. Milton's car. She pleaded guilty each time, but a seemingly oversolicitous city magistrate deemed it unnecessary and unwise to fine the daughter of one of the richest men in the world. The controversy led to several official investigations, including one ordered by Mayor John F. Hylan, and the magistrate and several police and court officials received reprimands.

Miss Rockefeller was married to Mr. Milton on May 14, 1925, in a ceremony in the Rockefeller home witnessed by about 50 guests. There was a reception for 1,200 guests, including the bride's beaming 86-year-old grandfather; Gov. Alfred E. Smith and John W. Davis, the 1924 Democratic Presidential candidate.

'Obey' Deleted

The bride created a minor scandal in social circles by demanding that the word "obey" be deleted from her marriage vows, a fairly common practice now but one considered revolutionary at the time.

But that was apparently the last of Abby Rockefeller's public rebelliousness. With marriage she settled into a quiet life, watching from the sidelines as her brothers became Governors of New York and Arkansas, bankers, powers in real estate and, in the case of one, Nelson, Vice President of the United States.

The Miltons had two daughters, Abby, now Mrs. George D. O'Neill, of Oyster Bay, L.I., and Marilyn, now Mrs. William K. Simpson, of Katonah, N.Y.

Mr. Milton, a lawyer and investment banker, was a member of the group that in 1927 developed what is now 1 Beekman Place, and the Milton family maintained a home there. In 1943, Mrs. Milton established residence in Reno and divorced her husband.

Mrs. Rockefeller Milton, as she was known after her divorce, was married in 1946 to Dr. Irving Hotchkiss Pardee, a neurologist, who died in 1949.

On April 23, 1953, she was married to Jean Mauze, senior vice president of United States Trust Company. He died in

links with her father, continued the sport well into her 60's.

She devoted much of her time to a number of charitable and philanthropic causes, notably the Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, to which she donated several million dollars over the years, and on whose board of trustees she sat. She received the center's medal of appreciation in 1965.

Mrs. Mauze was also active in the operations of, and a contributor to, the Museum of Modern Art, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Asia Society, the Society for New York Hospital and the New York Zoological Society.

In her honor, the Abby Rockefeller Mauze professorship for a distinguished woman scholar was established in 1962 at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The chair was endowed jointly by her brother Laurence and the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, the philanthropic organization of which she was an active member.

In 1971, after several years during which she spent \$1 million acquiring land and an estimated total of \$5 million for construction, Mrs. Mauze, under the fond eyes of all of her brothers, opened Greenacre Park. It was a gift to the people of the city, in the hope, Mrs. Mauze said, that "they will find here some moments of serenity in this busy world."

The handsome, quiet little park, on East 51st Street between Second and Third Avenues, was designed by the architect Hideo Sasaki. Its maintenance costs the city nothing since Mrs. Mauze set up the Greenacre Foundation to



Abby Rockefeller Mauze

insure it will be kept in perfect condition for years to come.

Her brother, Winthrop, who died in 1973, gave Mrs. Mauze an elaborate necklace, a heavy gold chain with a diamond-studded gold tree to commemorate the opening of her "vest pocket park."

In her last years, it was Greenacre Park, among her many philanthropic interests, that gave Mrs. Mauze her greatest personal satisfaction. She often went there to supervise the planting and rearranging of shrubs and trees.

In addition to her two daughters and four brothers, Mrs. Mauze is survived by eight grandchildren. There will be a private family service.

SYDNEY BLACKLEDGE

Capt. Sydney Blackledge, a former vice president of American Export Lines, died at his home in Somerset, Mass., on Saturday. He was 71 years old.

Captain Blackledge joined the steamship line as a third mate shortly before his 21st birthday, and retired from the line in 1968. His posts included port captain, marine superintendent, operating manager, vice president of operations and vice president of passenger-ship operations.

RUBY HILLMAN STERN

Ruby Hillman Stern, a past president of the National Council of Jewish Women in Essex County, in New Jersey, died Thursday at her home in South Orange, N. J. She was 79 years old.

Mrs. Stern was the widow of Arthur L. Stern, a chemical engineer. She graduated from Wellesley College in 1918.

HARRISON MARTLAND Jr.

Dr. Harrison Stanford Martland Jr., a general practitioner, died Tuesday night of a heart attack at his office, at 101 East 89th Street. He was 59 years old and lived at 400 Fowler Avenue in Pelham Manor, N. Y.

Dr. Martland, a graduate of the New York University Medical School, had done postgraduate work at Johns Hopkins University. He had been medical consultant for 20 years to the New York City Cancer Committee and was an internist on the staffs of Lenox Hill and Doctors Hospitals.

Infant Killed in Collision

MOUNT HOLLY, N.J., May 28 (AP)—Edwin Montes Jr. of Medford, 35 days old, died early today when the car in which he was riding collided with a pickup truck in nearby Hainesport. His aunt, Yvonne Montes, 25, who drove the car, was seriously injured. The truck driver