



## Elizabeth Monroe: First Lady of the United States.

### Summery

Elizabeth Monroe, the wife of the 5<sup>th</sup> president of the United States of America James Monroe, was the first lady between 1817 and 1825. Elizabeth is recognized for her grace, beauty and polite character; her European experience, staying with her husband in such countries, influenced her a lot in bringing this image to the White House.

### Elizabeth Monroe Facts





<b>Full Name:</b>	Elizabeth Kortright Monroe
<b>Date of Birth</b> :	30 June 1768
<b>Place of Birth:</b>	New York, United States
<b>Date of Death:</b>	23 September 1830 (age 62 years),
<b>Place of Death:</b>	Richmond, Virginia, United States
<b>Spouse :</b>	James Monroe (m. 1786-1830)
<b>Children :</b>	Eliza Kortright Monroe, James Spence Monroe, Maria Hester Monroe

**Parents;** Lawrence Kortright, Hannah Aspinwall Kortright Kortright



## Elizabeth Monroe's Early Life

Elizabeth Kortright Monroe was born on June, 1768 [New York City](#), to a wealthy merchant James Kortright and his second wife. She was born in Schenectady as the daughter of a successful merchant, Lawrence Kortright, and Hannah Aspinwall Kortright of a known New York lineage. Elizabeth's parents provided her with A good education, which made her a well-bred, and well-mannered young woman.

In 1782 he was also elected as the delegate and was chosen as the member of the governor's council. He was in the Congress from 1783 to 1786 under Articles of Confederation, the first constitution of the new nation. He aggressively asserted the right of the United Sates to transport on the Mississippi then occupied by the Spaniards and tried in 1785 to bolster up the weak Congress with the power to control commerce which removed one of the glaring evils in the existing structure of the central government.

## Elizabeth Monroe's Marriage Life



James Monroe, 5th President of the United States



Elizabeth married [James Monroe](#) a lawyer and a young ambitious political figure at the age of seventeen in 1786. Their union was life-long partnership that was characterized by close and personal support. These included the reign of French revolution where Elizabeth followed James on his diplomatic functions. This gave her a cut above her colleagues from other First Ladies of those early years and commonly associated with the Mature Sophisticated Worldly woman.

They were blessed with two daughters, Eliza and Maria, and their marriage was characterized by travels because Monroe was always involved in politics. Elizabeth's health was usually delicate especially in her youth which occasionally made her absence from the public domain.

## **Time in France**

Ms. Monroe was actively involved in France-United States relations while the Monroes were living in Paris in between 1794 and 1796. This trip to see Adrienne de Lafayette, the wife to Marquis de Lafayette who was incarcerated during the Reign of Terror had a profound impression. The kindness and courage that Elizabeth demonstrated when dealing with Adrienne's release promoted her even more in both France and the United States.

## **First Lady of United State**

Elizabeth Monroe assumed the office of the First Lady in 1817 when James Monroe was sworn in as the 5<sup>th</sup> President of the United States of America. In contrast to Dolley Madison, Elizabeth did not like the social part of the First Lady's work. She also shunned large parties and therefore was not as active socially in Washington as the other wives of the politicians.



However, it was Elizabeth who introduced a new aesthetic to the White House by being more formal than her predecessor. Based on her exposure to Europeans, she brought in more refined manners than those that were previously known, including French cooking and quality art in the presidential palace.

## **Elizabeth Monroe Legacy**

The story of Elizabeth Monroe is glossed over history and is a story that I believe deserves to be told. Few people know how gracefully she performed the role of setting the presidential style for the nation that we still see to this day. Yet the original woman who made it fashionable to be the president's wife was Mrs. Elizabeth Monroe. For her high stakes and contributing her china still used in the White House, one can get a glimpse of her taste even today.

## **Elizabeth Monroe Death**

After James Monroe's second term of presidency ended in 1825 the Monroes left the White House and went to their country home in Virginia and unfortunately Elizabeth's health did not improve.

After having many serious sicknesses Huntington's wife Elizabeth died in the same place Oak Hill on September 23, 1830 three years before her husband. Despite the fact that Elizabeth was a rather private person, she contributed a lot to the countries of the younger America as the First Lady, and her legacy is marked by strength and elegant manner characteristic of the beginning of the American history.



## People Also Ask?

### **What contributions did Elizabeth monroe make as the first lady?**

First Lady Elizabeth followed this tradition by having the gown she wore on Inauguration formalized and saved.

### **What did the queen of England told Marilyn Monroe when she met her?**

There is no evidence to support the conversation between Queen Elizabeth and Marilyn Monroe since there are no documents suggesting that the two met.

### **What was the cause of death of Elizabeth Monroe?**

Elizabeth Monroe passed on September, 23 1830 as a result of complications related to a stroke.