

We the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, promote the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do hereby constitute this great Republic under the auspices of the Supreme Being.



MAMIE GENEVA DOUD EISENHOWER

First Lady (1953–1961)

Mamie was born on November 14, 1896 in Boone, Iowa, the daughter of John Sheldon Doud and Elvira Carlson.

Mamie spent most of her school years in Denver, Colorado attending Corona Elementary School and East Denver High School and Miss Wolcott School for Girls. Her mother hated the cold winters so the Douds bought a second home in San Antonio, Texas and that is where Mamie met David Eisenhower who was stationed nearby at Fort Sam Houston. When she was 19 years old, she married Dwight David Eisenhower at her family home in Denver. Because her husband was a West Point graduate and a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army, Mamie led the life of the wife of a career military man. She lived in 33 different homes during the first 37 years of her marriage. Mamie and David had two sons: Doud Dwight and John Sheldon Doud.

Mamie saw her role as First Lady to be the wife of the President and the hostess of the White House and as such, she spent much time planning and supervising all the details of the many social events hosted during this time. She also hosted the first White House performance of musical theatre music. One of her most notable actions was her refusal to invite Senator Joe McCarthy to dinner at an event where all the Senators were traditionally invited. She also presided over a dinner and reception for the first world leader of African heritage to visit the White House.

On September 24, 1955, her husband suffered a major heart attack at her mother's home in Denver. Mamie immediately took control and created a presidential suite in the Fitzsimmons Army Hospital. During his recovery, Mamie took full charge of all the Presidential work including screening visitors, mail, meetings, and his diet.

Mamie died on November 1, 1979 at the age of 82.

Mamie's Heart

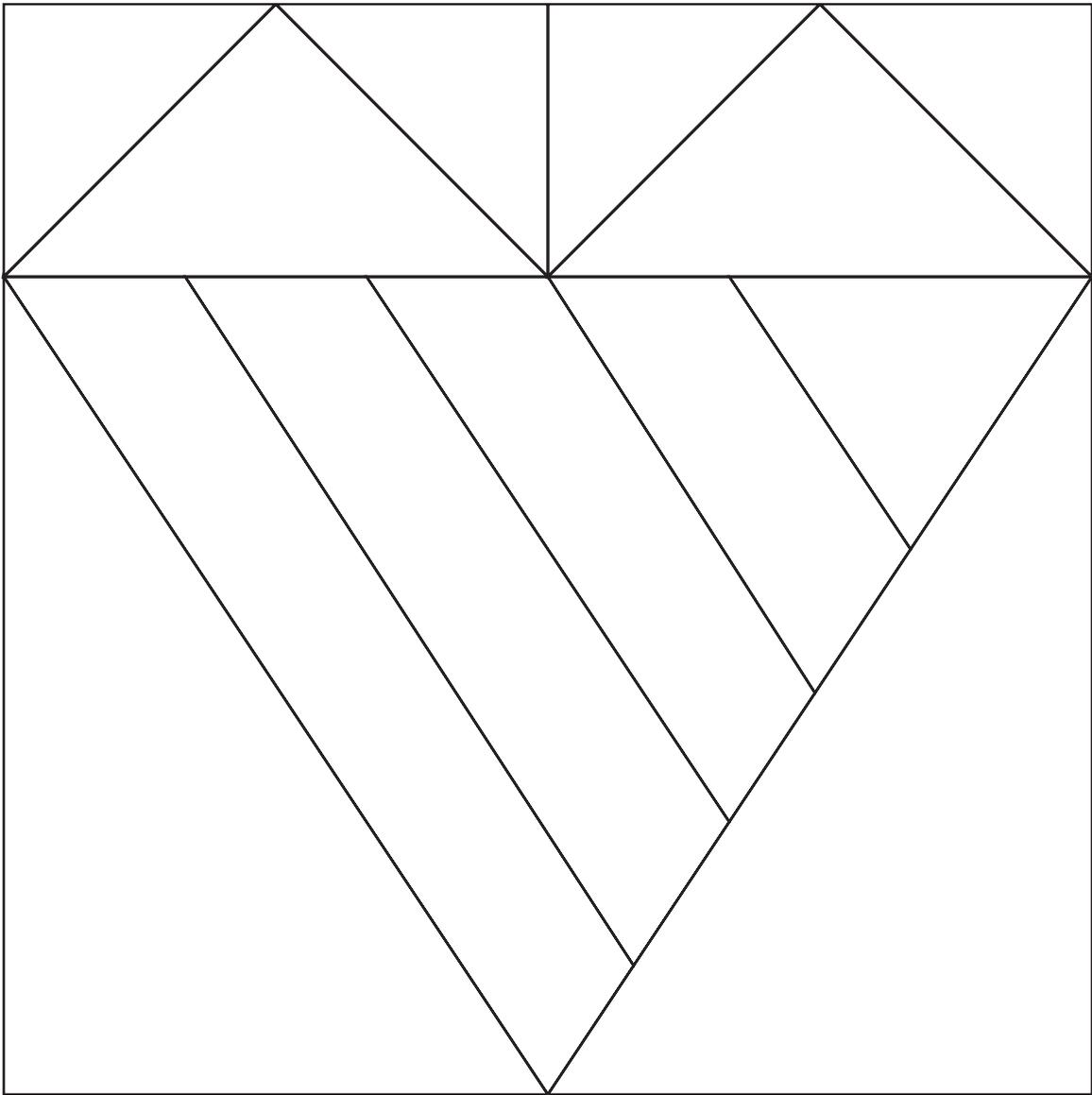
Mamie's block commemorates her concern about the prevalence of heart disease and her assumption of the local and national chairmanship of the American Heart Association's fund raising drives. It is made in pink, her favorite color.

First Ladies of America Quilt

"Of course, being mistress of the White House is a terrific responsibility, and I am truly grateful for my Army wife training."

~Mamie Eisenhower





Mamie's Heart
Making the Block

Foundation piece using the pattern in the template section.