

First Ladies of Alabama

Fun Facts

Read the facts about these Alabama first ladies. Use the **bold letters** to fill in the puzzle at the end to reveal the hidden message.

1. Martha Lenoir Pickens was Alabama's third First Lady. **S**he was known for her love of fashion. She even designed some of her own gowns. She died of malaria when she was 31, the first First Lady to die while her husband was **g**overnor.
2. Sarah Haynesworth Gayle was First Lady when Tuscaloosa was Alabama's capital. She also was hostess to Frances Scott Key, **a**uthor of our National Anthem, when he traveled to Alabama in 1833.
3. Sarah Ann Mason, wife of Governor Joshua Lanier Martin, was the First Lady when the capital moved to **M**ontgomery in 1846. Sarah **h** married Martin after Joshua's first wife, Mary Gilliam, who was Sarah's sister, died.
4. In 1838, **F**elicia Pickett was a teenager at the time of her marriage to 39- year- old United State Congressman Reuben Chapman. Ten years later, Chapman became Governor and Felicia the First Lady.
5. As a leading lawyer of his day, Governor George S. Houston was said to have discussed matters with his wife, First Lady Margaret Irvine **H**ouston, before trying a case.
6. Governor Bibb Graves appointed his wife Dixie Bibb Graves as United States Senator to fill the vacancy created when Hugo Black left and was appointed to the United States Supreme **C**ourt. Dixie Graves **t**hus became Alabama's first female United States senator.
7. First Lady Lurleen Burns **W**allace, wife of George C. Wallace, became Alabama's first and only female governor. She died of cancer in May 1968 **a**fter serving 17 months in office.
8. First Lady Patsy Riley, wife of Governor Bob Riley, reopened the Governor's Mansion to the public after it had been closed for **m**ore than a decade.

Hidden Message:



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