

In Loving Memory

Mrs. Weisiger
Eileen Marie Weisiger
Maiden Name: Moore
1918 – 2001

Eileen Marie Moore Early Years 1918 – 1950

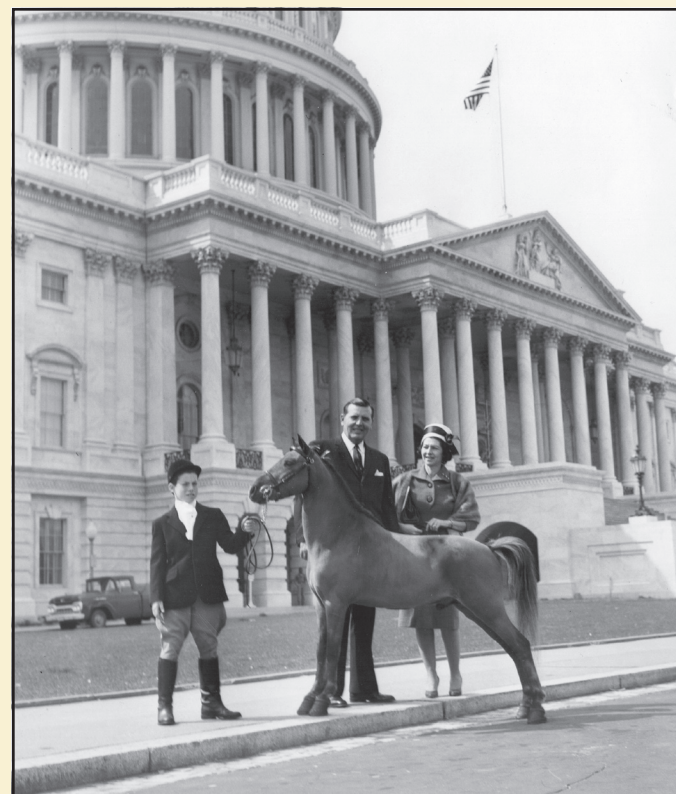
Eileen Moore was born in Billings, MT to Irish parents, Harry C. Moore and Mary K. Moore, and shortly moved to Springfield, IL at the age of 2. She lived in Springfield, IL until she graduated from Springfield High School in 1936. With a passion to be in the fashion industry, Eileen Moore went on to attend the Ray-Vogue School in Chicago, IL, which was one of the first applied art and design colleges in the United States. She studied under the direction of Ruth Ray, the director of fashion design. Upon graduation, Eileen started her career in modeling and fashion designing in the Chicago area. She worked at Marshall Fields which was an exclusive upscale women's clothing store in Chicago.

In 1941, she married her first husband, Walter McGivney, who was the leading hat manufacturer in the United States. For the next 8 years, Eileen and Walter worked together to design and develop new lines of women's hats.

In 1949, Eileen moved to the Washington Metropolitan Area after the passing of her husband. She later met and married David Berry Weisiger, the president of The Anchor Masonry Company, a major commercial builder in the Washington Metropolitan area.

Berryland Farm Years 1953 – 1966

Eileen and David Weisiger purchased a 350-acre farm in Oakton, VA in 1953 and in 1955 they relocated from Arlington, VA to Oakton, VA. The farm was named Berryland Farm and was used mainly to raise, buy, and sell show ponies. This new venture was a first time experience in the farming business for the both of them and was never intended to become a full scaled farming operation. During the peak years of the farm, it had over 200 show ponies



Eileen Marie Weisiger at U.S. Capital
pictured with Congressman Joel T. Broyhill
(Promotional photo for Berryland Farm)
Washington, D.C.



Eileen Marie Weisiger showing Shetland ponies
from Berryland Farms
New York Show

and was recognized throughout the United States as the premier breeding farm for registered Shetland show ponies.

In 1959, David Weisiger passed away from a sudden heart attack. However, because the Weisiger family was well entrenched in the show pony business, Eileen Weisiger continued the business on her own for the next 7 years. In 1967, Eileen Weisiger sold Berryland Farms and moved to McLean, VA, because of high real estate taxes and time away from her family due to travel.



Portrait of Eileen Marie Moore wearing
one of her signature design hats
Chicago, IL

Fairfax Ice Arena Years 1972 – 2001

During the early 1970s, Eileen Weisiger felt there was a need for a year-round ice skating facility in Virginia, since there had never been a year-round ice skating facility in the state. In 1972, she began construction in Fairfax, VA



Eileen Marie Weisiger skating
in a promotional photo for
Fairfax Ice Arena in 1973
Fairfax, VA

and on March 17, 1973, opened the Fairfax Ice Arena, the first year-round ice skating facility in the Washington Metropolitan area and also one of the first year-round ice skating facilities in the south. Eileen Weisiger was also instrumental in

forming the first two year-round ice skating clubs in the state of Virginia. In 1973, she started the Fairfax Hockey Club for youth ice hockey and in 1974, she formed the Skating Club of Northern Virginia for competitive Figure skating. Eileen Weisiger continued as the owner of Fairfax Ice Arena, until her death on April 17, 2001 at the age of 83.



Eileen Marie Weisiger at the
Fairfax Ice Arena ground
breaking ceremony with
the Mayor in 1972
Fairfax, VA

Art years 1982 – 2001

After many years away from the fashion, art and design industry, Eileen Weisiger's life came full circle, and she decided to return to her roots of creating artworks with different mediums. For the remaining years of her life, Eileen Weisiger experimented with many different art styles including print making and silk screening, and had art studios in

Alexandria, VA and New York City. At one point, she even taught art in Costa Rica and also went to Japan to study the art of papermaking. She created hundreds of pieces of art and sold them locally and in New York.



"Fiesta"
Artist: Eileen Marie Weisiger



Eileen Marie Weisiger teaching art
at the University of San Jose in 1990
Costa Rica



"Floating Landscape"
Artist: Eileen Marie Weisiger

The Eileen Weisiger Story 1918 – 2001

The Eileen Weisiger story was about an Irish girl from Springfield, IL, that was very creative and determined, entering into the fashion

industry, the farming business, and the ice arena business, which were all businesses usually dominated by men. Eileen Marie Weisiger lived a full life as an entrepreneur, fashion designer, artist, model, and mother of five children. She incorporated her creative talents into all the aspect in her life, and was a true entrepreneur with an incredible work ethic that would not concede to failure even as she faced enormous tragedies and obstacles in her life. She was the driving force to the success of the Weisiger family and will be dearly missed by family and friends.



Eileen Marie Weisiger
at her home in 1999
McLean, VA