

FRANCIS MOORE, 80, A CONCERT PIANIST

Teacher and Composer Dies—
Had Been Accompanist to
Kreisler, Elman, Powell

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

PELHAM MANOR, N. Y., July 11—Francis Moore, concert pianist, teacher and composer, died here today in his home, at 572 Manor Lane, at the age of 80. After suffering a stroke in 1940, he was a semi-invalid for three years, and thereafter was unable to give lessons to any but advanced pupils.

Born in El Paso, Tex., a son of Francis M. and Ann Wilson Moore, Mr. Moore began studying music at the age of 7 as a pupil of Ferdinand Dewey of Philadelphia, who was visiting in El Paso. Impressed by the child's talent, Mr. Dewey took the boy to Philadelphia two years later to continue the studies.

As a young man Mr. Moore was accompanist for Fritz Kreisler, Mischa Elman, Meud Powell, Johanna Gadski and other noted musicians. In 1922 he made his debut as a concert pianist, and then devoted himself largely to concert tours of this country, Canada and Europe. His last New York concert was at Town Hall in 1939.

Mr. Moore had been guest pianist with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, the National Symphony Orchestra, University Glee Club of New York, and other organizations. He had played for President Woodrow Wilson in the White House and for Ignace Jan Paderewski at a dinner given by Polish patriots.

Founder of the Francis Moore Music Center, Mr. Moore formerly operated studios in New York and Brooklyn but in recent months had only a studio here. He was the composer and arranger of considerable piano music, especially for two pianos.

He was a member of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers and the Mendelssohn Glee Club of New York, of which he had been accompanist for twenty-five years before his illness. He had also played over the radio.

Mr. Moore leaves a widow, the former Gertrude Ellis; two sons, William B. of Miami, Fla., and Ellis O. Moore of Pine Bluff, Ark.; and a daughter, Mrs. Wilbur W. Hiller of Rochester, N. Y.

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Francis Moore Taken by Death

Francis Moore, native El Pasoan, concert pianist, teacher and composer, died yesterday in his home at Pelham Manor, N. Y., after a four-year illness. Mr. Moore was 80.

Following memorial services in Pelham Manor, Mrs. Moore, the former Gertrude Ellis of El Paso, and a son, Ellis Moore of Pinebluff, Ark., will accompany the body to El Paso for burial. Graveside services were set tentatively for Tuesday.

Began Studying at Seven

Mr. Moore began studying music when he was seven, under Ferdinand Dewey of Philadelphia, a visitor in El Paso.

He began his professional career at the age of 30 when the late Maud Powell, violinist, visited El Paso during a concert tour. Miss Powell's accompanist became ill and Mr. Moore was engaged to replace him. The violinist was so pleased with Mr. Moore's work that she took him to New York as her accompanist.

Concert Tour in 1922

He also accompanied such artists as Fritz Kreisler, and Mischa Elman. He made his concert debut in 1922, after which he toured the country.

In Pelham Manor, he founded the Francis Moore Music Center. He served as accompanist for the Mendelssohn Club in New York City, an organization of prominent men interested in singing.

He is survived also by another son, William Brown Moore of Miami, Fla., and a daughter, Mrs. Ward Hiler of Rochester, N. Y., and three grandchildren.

Mrs. Moore is a sister of Mrs. J. Davis Mayfield of Clint.