

Aristotle Onassis

This article **does not have any sources**. You can help Wikipedia by finding [good](#) sources, and adding them. *(February 2013)*

Aristotle Onassis in 1967

Aristotle Socrates Onassis (20 January 1906 – 15 March 1975) was a prominent [Greek](#) shipping magnate and founder of Olympic Airways.

Life and career

[[change](#) | [change source](#)]

Onassis was born in Smyrna (now Izmir), [Ottoman Empire](#), into a prosperous Greek family. He received a good education and became fluent in several languages. In 1922, when Turkey took possession of Smyrna, the Onassis family lost most of their fortune and had to flee to Greece. The following year, Onassis left for [Argentina](#) where he quickly established himself as a prominent businessman.

He later began to invest in shipping and eventually acquired a large fleet of [freighters](#) which made him one of the richest men in the world. In 1957, he founded Olympic Airways. He converted one of his ships into a luxury yacht called *Christina*, which he used to entertain famous people ([artists](#), [politicians](#), [royalty](#), etc.).

He married Athina Livanos (1926-1974) in 1946, with whom he had two children; Alexander (1948-1973) and Christina (1950-1988). In the late 1950s, he met diva [Maria Callas](#) and began a [liaison](#) with her that led to his [divorce](#). In 1968, he startled the world by marrying [Jacqueline Kennedy](#), the widow of slain President [John F. Kennedy](#).

He died at American Hospital of Paris in [Neuilly-sur-Seine](#), [France](#), from complications of [myasthenia gravis](#) and [pneumonia](#), aged 69.

Retrieved from "https://simple.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Aristotle_Onassis&oldid=9109477"