



First Lady Martha Wayles Skelton Jefferson

Martha Wayles Skelton Jefferson was born on October 19, 1748 in Charles City County, Virginia. Her first husband died from an accident and she married Thomas Jefferson on January 1, 1772. They had 6 children, but Martha was not in good health and died in 1782 after giving birth to the sixth child. Thomas Jefferson became president 19 years later. Her daughters often performed the hostess duties for the White House. Dolley Madison also filled in as White House hostess. Dolley Madison was the wife of Secretary of State James Madison.