

QUEEN AND SPIRIT OF BRITAIN

Elizabeth II, Whose 7-Decade Reign Linked Generations, Dies at 96



ANDREW HARRISON/REUTERS

The Steady Hand of a Nation

Through seven decades on the throne, Queen Elizabeth II was an enduring presence, one who remained determinedly committed to the hallmark aloofness, formality and pageantry of the monarchy.

Her reign survived tectonic shifts in Britain's post-imperial society as well as challenges posed by the marriages and mistresses of her descendants. In many ways, hers was an accidental reign. It was the abdication of her uncle, King Edward VIII, that put her in the direct line of succession. When her father, King George VI, died, she was 25.

Some predicted that she would recede into the shadows after the death in April 2021 of Prince Philip, her husband of 73 years. However, she surprised many by re-emerging into public life.

OBITUARY, SPECIAL SECTION

A Country in Turmoil Enters a Period of Mourning and Transition

LONDON — Queen Elizabeth II, whose seven-decade reign made her the only sovereign that most Britons had ever known, died on Thursday at her summer estate in Scotland, thrusting a bereaved country into a momentous transition at a time of political and economic upheaval. The queen's death at Balmoral Castle, announced by Buckingham Palace at 6:30 p.m., elevated her eldest son and heir, Charles, to the throne. He is Britain's first king since 1952, taking the name King Charles III. At 70, visibly frail and having survived multiple health crises, the queen had been in the twilight of her reign for some years. But news of her death still landed with a thunderclap across the British realm, where the queen was revered figure and an anchor of stability. In itself, the queen's death is a watershed moment. But it also comes at a time of acute uncertainty in Britain. A new prime minister, Liz Truss, has been in office for only three days, following months of political turmoil in the British government. The country faces its gravest economic threats in a generation, beset by inflation, soaring energy bills and the specter of a prolonged recession.

The death of Elizabeth II will mark a royal transition more complicated than any change in prime ministers. It will be meticulously choreographed in its rituals, but what kind of monarchy it will produce is a mystery. At 79, Charles is the oldest person to become monarch in British history — a familiar figure, to be sure, but one who has made clear he wants to transform the nature of the royal family. "The Queen died peacefully at Balmoral this afternoon," the palace said in a stark, two-line obituary. Her marriage to Diana, Princess of Wales, anchored her country with a regal dignity as it made a turbulent passage from globe-spanning empire to reluctant member of the European Union to an uncertain future after Brexit.

Charles's journey was, perhaps inevitably, less acclimated. His fables and frustrations were mercilessly dissected by the news media, his pet hobbies, from archery to tennis, and his organic farming, were frequently mocked. His marriage to Diana, Princess of Wales, anchored her country with a regal dignity as it made a turbulent passage from globe-spanning empire to reluctant member of the European Union to an uncertain future after Brexit.

Charles, Long in the Wings, Ascends a Throne He Was Born To

LONDON — Never, perhaps, has an heir been more ready for the crown. Charles, the eldest son of Queen Elizabeth II and a man born to the throne, acceded to the throne on Thursday after being the designated successor for longer than anyone in the history of the British monarchy. As King Charles III, he will become sovereign of the world's most important constitutional monarchy, head of the most storied royal family, and a symbol of continuity in a stream-lined country. Having aged from an awkward, self-doubting young man into an unhappy middle-aged husband, Charles has become, at 74, a well-assured, gray-haired, crumpled, stooped in causes like climate change and environmental protection, which were once quirky but now seen peculiarly in sync with the times.

Trump Fund-Raising After Loss Is Investigated by Justice Dept.

This article is by Alan Foner, Maggie Haberman, Adam Goldman and Kenneth P. Vogel. A federal grand jury in Washington is examining the formation of — and spending by — a fund-raising operation created by Donald J. Trump after his loss in the 2020 election as he was soliciting millions of dollars by hastily assembled asserting that the results had been marred by widespread voting fraud. According to subpoenaed information from the grand jury, the contents of which were described to The New York Times, the Justice Department is interested in the inner workings of Save America PAC. Mr. Trump's main fund-raising vehicle after the election. Several other subsequent events were held on Wednesday in Junior and Middle West states who worked in the White House and for Mr. Trump's presidential campaign. The fact that federal prosecutors are now seeking information about the fund-raising operation is a significant new turn in an already sprawling criminal investigation into the roles that Mr.

From Awkward Prince to Self-Assured King

Whether Charles will ever enjoy the respect or affection shown to his mother is another question. Thrust on to the throne at 25, Elizabeth reigned for longer than any monarch in British history, anchoring her country with a regal dignity as it made a turbulent passage from globe-spanning empire to reluctant member of the European Union to an uncertain future after Brexit.

Oberlin Will Pay \$36 Million To Bakery Over Racism Claim

At the end of the litigation will begin the healing of our entire community." The college acknowledged that the stain of the judgment, which included damages and interest, was "significant." But it said that "with careful financial planning," Oberlin Bakery retained a lawyers-led fight and resumed beyond the small village town in Ohio, turning into a bitter national debate over racial justice. The decision by the college's board of trustees, announced Thursday, came nine days after the Ohio Supreme Court had declined to hear the college's appeal of a lower-court ruling. In a statement, Oberlin said the court's decision "is a victory for everyone." It added, "We hope

Global Economic Shock Waves Pose the Gravest Risk to Europe

Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the continuing effects of the pandemic have hobnobbed countries around the globe, but the relentless series of crises has hit Europe the hardest, causing the steepest jumps in energy prices, some of the highest inflation rates and the biggest risk of recession. The fallout from the war is menacing the continent with what some say could become the most challenging economic and financial crisis in decades. "While growth is slowing worldwide, 'an Europe's' it's altogether more serious because it's driven by a more fundamental uncertainty," said Neil Shearing, group chief economist at Capital Economics. The European Central Bank, which oversees economic policy for the 19 nations that use the euro, took an aggressive anti-combat inflation, reaching its target.

What's News

Business & Finance

The ECB raised interest rates by the largest amount since the early days of Europe's currency union, moving aggressively to combat record inflation even as an energy crisis pits Europe on the brink of recession. A Powell said the Fed is squarely focused on bringing down high inflation to prevent it from becoming entrenched, firming expectations of a third consecutive 0.75 percentage point rate rise later this month.

U.S. stocks rose, with the S&P 500 gaining 0.7% and the Dow and Nasdaq both adding 0.8%. The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note rose to 4.12%.

Reign Stood Out in Era of Change

Queen Elizabeth II was the longest-reigning monarch in U.K. history and a symbol of stability in an era of sweeping social and political change. Her reign was marked by the collapse of the British Empire, the creation of the Commonwealth, the rise of the welfare state, and the end of the monarchy's political influence.

ECB Delivers Largest Rate Rise in 23 Years

The European Central Bank raised its policy rate by 0.75% on Thursday, the largest increase since 1999. The move is part of the bank's effort to combat inflation, which has reached a 40-year high.

NY's Top Partners Approve Plan to Split Firm

The Justice Department asked a federal judge to put on hold part of her order halting its criminal inquiry into documents seized in the search of former President Trump's Mar-a-Lago home.

Renewables' Success Skews Carbon Market

With its 34 turbines perched on a hill in southwestern India, the Tappadaha wind farm is generating green energy — and profits. The wind farms and three others in India are owned by Acciona's subsidiary, which is performing so well it is selling its shares at a premium.

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Queen Elizabeth II, shown in 1953 in coronation robes, died Thursday at Balmoral Castle, her summer residence in Scotland.

U.K. monarch ruled for seven decades; her son takes throne as King Charles III

LONDON — Queen Elizabeth II, who defined the monarchy for generations of Britons, died Thursday, plunging the U.K. into mourning and giving the country its first new head of state in 70 years, her son, King Charles III. Buckingham Palace said the 96-year-old queen — who acceded to the throne when Winston Churchill was prime minister and the nation was recovering from World War II — died at her residence in Balmoral, Scotland. King Charles III, 70, was named to the throne with his family said was expected to return to London after spending the night in Balmoral. "The Queen died peacefully at Balmoral this afternoon," Buckingham Palace said.

The queen's death marks a watershed moment for the U.K. Britons under the age of 70 have grown up knowing only one monarch. She was the most visible link to the country's imperial past and the embodiment of national identity. "We mourn profoundly the passing of a cherished Sovereign and a much-loved Mother," said King Charles III in a statement. "I know her loss will be deeply felt throughout the country, the British and the Commonwealth, and by countless people around the world." For the U.K., the queen's death is a moment of national mourning, a time of high inflation, a looming recession.

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