

# NAN BLAKSTONE, 45, SINGER, COMEDIENNE

CHICAGO, Sept. 25 (AP)—Nan Blakstone, night club star who once was the "toast of Chicago's gold coast," died last night after asking that her eyes be given to an eye bank.

The 45-year-old singer, comedienne and pianist had been a \$1,000-a-week performer in Chicago, Paris and London night clubs before entering semi-retirement a year and a half ago.

Miss Blakstone, wife of Ronald Aaron Gerard, her manager, writer and producer, died in Columbus Hospital, where she had been taken Sunday after suffering a cerebral hemorrhage.

Her bequest of her eyes to an eye bank was prompted by sympathy for her mother-in-law, who died blind.

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Born in San Antonio, Miss Blakstone attended Oklahoma University and later completed an extensive musical course at Chicago Musical College. A talented pianist, during her undergraduate years, she never played a note of anything that wasn't a musical classic. When Miss Blakstone launched her career as singer, comedienne and pianist, however, she built a reputation around her virtuosity as a "hot" musician.