

APPAREL AND ACCESSORIES

Franca Fendi, third of five Fendi sisters, dies at 87

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The news marks the second loss of the five executive sisters. Image credit: Agencia EFE

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

Italian fashion house Fendi shared news of luxury executive Franca Fendi's death on Tuesday, at age 87 in Rome, Italy, according to a report from *The Guardian*.

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Prior to the brand's eventual acquisition on behalf of LVMH in 2001, Ms. Fendi served as purchasing manager, building and scaling the family business with her sisters upon the death of their father, Fendi founder Edoardo Fendi. One of five inheritors of her predecessor's eponymous label, the news marks the second of two losses between the five executive sisters, after the passing of Carla Fendi in June 2017.

Fashion mourns Fendi's loss

Founded in 1925, the luxury goods house and famed furrier has lost a legend.

Among the group of second-generation inheritors, Ms. Fendi played a crucial role at the helm of the brand, overseeing retail responsibilities for the house as purchasing manager.

Upon each receiving a 20 percent share of the company after their father's death in 1946, Ms. Fendi and her executive sisters carried the line's legacy, breathing new life into the house upon the appointment of late German designer Karl Lagerfeld as house creative director in 1965.

In 1999, Ms. Fendi stepped down from her post, in light of LVMH's initial acquisition of a 51 percent controlling stake alongside Prada Group.

Late fashion icon and former Fendi creative director Karl Lagerfeld draws the five Fendi sisters

Ms. Fendi would go on to grapple with the death of her husband Luigi Formilli in August 2001. Just a few short months later in December of that year, LVMH would make moves to become Fendi's majority stakeholder.

Ms. Fendi is survived by sisters Paola, Anna and Alda Fendi, and her four children, Guido, Andrea, Luca and Federica.

Carla Fendi died at the age of 79 in 2017 ([see story](#)). Up until her death, she served as honorary president of the label.

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