

# 'Blood and Money' figure dies in Austin hospital

AUSTIN (AP) — Ann Kurth, a key figure in the notorious love triangle depicted in the book "Blood and Money," died at St. David's Hospital after suffering an aneurysm. She was 59.

Ms. Kurth was in the hospital for nearly a month before she died Saturday, said officials at the Hyltin-Manor Funeral Chapel.

She was the second wife of Houston plastic surgeon John Hill, who married her in 1969 less than two months after his first wife, Houston socialite Joan Robinson Hill, died of a massive, mysterious infection.

Hill, who was charged in connection with his first wife's death, later was gunned down at his River Oaks home after a mistrial and before he

could be retried for murder.

In his book "Blood and Money," author Tommy Thompson implied that Joan Hill's father hired the gunmen who killed his son-in-law.

The marriage between Ms. Kurth and Hill lasted less than a year. Ms. Kurth, who testified against Hill before a Harris County grand jury, later said they split up because "he tried to kill me and I was afraid for my life."

Ms. Kurth recounted her version of the story in "Prescription: Murder." A 1981 television movie, "Murder in Texas," was based on Ms. Kurth's book and starred Farrah Fawcett as Joan Hill and Katherine Ross as Ms. Kurth.