

Amelia earhart: a woman with a strong heart

[Sociology](#), [Women](#)



Amelia Earhart was an important figure who achieved great success and paved the way for women who came along after her. Amelia Mary Earhart was born on July 24, 1897, in Atchison, Kansas (Amelia). Amelia was a tomboy when she was young, she loved playing outdoors and going on adventures. Amelia was a very spirited girl, and she didn't accept the explanation that girls just shouldn't do things simply because they were girls. Amelia collected bugs, jumped off roofs and kept a scrapbook of newspaper clippings about successful women in predominantly male-oriented fields such as management, engineering and law (Parr).

Amelia was no ordinary child, she knew something had to change in America from early on, her stubborn character to do whatever she wished would help usher in a new age for women around the world. Amelia was more than just a woman who flew an airplane, her modern lifestyle inspired many to follow suit. She served as a nurse during World War I, which was still a controversial job for women at the time (Amelia). Amelia had many interests and attended Columbia University signing up for a medical major. She took classes in engine repair. Not smiled upon at the time, and classes in French poetry and even taught herself to play the banjo (Rich).

Amelia liked to push the envelope and wasn't afraid of controversy or being different. Although she left Columbia after one year, her year there played a huge role in her development as a modern woman. Many adore the way she did not follow the crowd but followed her dreams and achieved great things in many areas of her life. Amelia fell in love with the idea of flying after leaving Columbia. She chose to be taught by Neat Snood, one of the first women

aviators of the time, to teach her to fly (Rich). Like in everything else Amelia learned quickly and surpassed all expectations.

She broke many records during her lifetime. In 1932, she became the first woman to fly over the Atlantic Ocean solo, the only person to fly it twice, it was the longest nonstop distance flown by a woman, and the flight set a record for crossing the Atlantic in the shortest time (Amelia). When Amelia returned to New York after her famous flight, she was honored by a ticker tape parade. President Roosevelt presented her with the Special Gold Medal from the National Geographic Society. The United States Congress awarded her with the Distinguished Flying Cross, she became the first woman to earn the award (Parr).

Amelia's flights showed America that a woman can do everything a man can do and even better. Amelia Earhart spent most of her lifetime establishing the permanent role of women in aviation. However, her influence goes far beyond her accomplishments in following their dreams no matter what obstacles stood in their way. Her ability to balance her life and career makes her one of the first modern American women. Amelia Earhart may have won the Woman of the Year during her lifetime but she could arguably be the Woman of the Century.