Francis Russell, 79, a Historian
And a Hardying Biographer, Dies

BY ALBIN KREBS

Francis Russell, a historian and pro-
ducer of film and television programs, died
Monday night at Memorial Sloan-Kettering
Cancer Center. He was 79.

Mr. Russell, who was a friend of the
most famous men of the 20th century, indi-
cated a cause of death when relatives
were told that his death was due to a heart
attack.

Mr. Russell, who was born in 1899 in
New York City, began his career as a jour-
nalistic writer for newspapers and maga-
azines. He was a correspondent for the

He was a friend of the most famous
men of the 20th century, including
President Franklin D. Roosevelt, President
Harry S. Truman, and President Lyndon B.
Johnson.

Mr. Russell was a leading expert on
the history of the United States, and he
wrote many books on the subject, includ-
ing "The American Revolution" and "The
Civil War." He also wrote a number of
films and television programs on the sub-
ject.

Mr. Russell was a prolific writer, and
his works have been translated into many
languages. He was a frequent contributor
to American Historical Review, and his
writings have been praised for their accu-
racy and depth.

Mr. Russell was a member of the
American Society of Historians, and he
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