

Widow of Oswald Victim Lives Frugal Life

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By JO BALL

Associated Press Writer

DALLAS, Tex.—There's little in her home to indicate Marie Tippit is a wealthy woman.

A new car stands in the driveway and a color television is in the living room. But the furniture shows the wear of three active children. The house, like the neighborhood, is modest.

And Mrs. Tippit does the housework herself. "Ironing is my biggest job. I never seem to get caught up," she said.

The attractive brunette is the widow of J. D. Tippit, the Dallas police officer killed by President John F. Kennedy's

EDITOR'S NOTE—Marie Tippit, widow of the Dallas policeman who died at the hands of President Kennedy's assassin, now is a wealthy woman. But she continues to live with her three children in a modest home, doing the housework herself and watching pennies at the supermarket. In a rare interview she tells why.

assassin the day Kennedy died—Nov. 22, 1963.

Tippit had stopped the assassin, Lee Harvey Oswald, for questioning on a street shortly after Kennedy was shot.

As Tippit walked toward Oswald, the assassin drew a gun and fired. Tippit died



MRS. TIPPIT

with his service revolver half out of its holster.

Oswald fled to a nearby theater where officers arrested him.

Had it not been for Tippit, officers say, Oswald might have fled the country.

Tippit's death brought spontaneous sympathy from around the world. It has made Mrs. Tippit wealthy.

She received thousands of letters with money enclosed. The total—\$647,579. Half of it went into a trust fund for the Tippit children. The widow received most of the rest.

But she didn't go on a spending spree.

"I want the children to grow up just like they would

*Widow of President
John F. Kennedy*

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have if J. D. were still with us," she said. "I want them to learn to earn their way in the world just the way their father had to. If you make it easy for them, they won't know how when they grow up."

The children, Curtis, 6; Brenda, 9; and Allen, 15, received the same allowance they had before their father was killed, Mrs. Tippit said.

"I feel the money was sent

out of the kindness of many good people and I should use it very wisely," their mother said. "I plan to give the children the necessities, and see to all their needs. But I'm not going to spoil them with unnecessary luxuries that they wouldn't have had otherwise," she said.

Mrs. Tippit's life revolves around her children and her home.

"Keeping the house, running errands and taking care of the

needs and training of the children is a full-time job," she said.

Her views on remarriage have softened considerably since earlier interviews. "That will have to be left to the future; I have no plans now," she told a reporter recently.

But life without her husband is still an ache.

"I haven't adjusted—it's more a matter of accepting it and learning to live with it," she said.