

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Ruby 'unwitting' killer?

## Friend ends 11-year silence on relationship

LL SLOAN  
Writer

Jack Ruby was obsessed with a fanatical devotion to President John F. Kennedy and could not knowingly have taken part in any conspiracy the time Kennedy was shot in Dallas, one of Ruby's closest friends maintains.

Edward J. Pullman, a North Dallas psychological counselor and hypnotherapist, broke an 11-year silence to tell The Dallas Herald about his one-year friendship with the slayer of an accused presidential assassin, Lee Harvey Oswald.

"Jack loved President Kennedy and he was very emotionally disturbed by his death," Pullman said. "He had a kind of father-fixation on the president."

"He called me the night after Kennedy was killed and he was crying. He said, 'The thing that bothers me most is that Jackie (Kennedy) will have to come down here and face that little s.o.b at the trial.'"

In early 1964, Pullman was questioned by two attorneys for the Warren Commission, but "they didn't seem interested" in what he had to say.

If Ruby was a party to a conspiracy to "shut Oswald's mouth," as some assassination buffs have suggested, he was an unwitting party, Pullman believes.

"It's conceivable that somebody could have used Jack because he was such a well-known bothead."

"For this reason, and because of some of the new evidence that has turned up, I'd like to see the assassination investigation reopened."

Pullman said he first became aware of how strong Ruby's feelings were about Kennedy one evening when he and his wife were visiting Ruby's Carousel Club.

"There was a comic on stage who started doing an unflattering impersonation of President Kennedy," Pullman recalled. "When Jack heard what was going on, he really blew his stack."

"He ran up on the stage and grabbed the guy and threatened to throw him out of the place if he ever did the act again."

In November, 1963—just two weeks before the assassination—Pullman and Ruby both attended a Texas Products Show at Marjette Hall, where Pullman witnessed another example of Ruby's quick temper where J.F.K. was concerned.

"H. L. Hunt (the late multimillionaire oilman) was at the show, passing out literature that was highly critical of Kennedy. Jack came over to me, boiling mad and waving one of Hunt's pamphlets."

"I'm going to write my congressman about this," he said. "People shouldn't be saying things like this about the President of the United States."

Not only were Pullman and his wife occasional guests at

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—Staff Photo by Kurt Wallace  
ED PULLMAN met Jack Ruby one year before Ruby shot and killed Lee Harvey Oswald in the basement of the Dallas police station. They met at an inventors' show where Ruby was demonstrating an invention of his, a "twist" exercise board. Pullman is holding one of the rare boards.

Ruby's nightclub, but also frequently entertained Ruby at their home.

"We would get some bagels and lox and invite Jack over for breakfast," Pullman said.

Pullman believes it was "pure accident" that Ruby happened to confront Oswald on the morning of Nov. 24, 1963, as Dallas police were attempting to transfer the accused assassin from the police station to the county jail.

"Jack was on his way to the Western Union office (just

down Main Street from the police station) to wire some money to somebody; and he just stopped in at the station to see some of 'the boys.' All the cops were his friends.

"Jack always carried a pistol with him because he was accustomed to carrying large sums of cash around. I saw the gun he shot Oswald with many times.

"When he suddenly found himself face-to-face with Oswald, Jack couldn't control himself. He pulled out the gun

and shot him, but there wasn't anything premeditated about it," Pullman said.

"I've never been able to buy the story that Jack could die so suddenly from cancer. He was a big health nut, who ate wheat germ with his milk and all that. He was always tough, always ready for a fight. I've seen him throw people down the stairs.

"It just doesn't seem logical that he could get sick and die like that."