

Post 11623-76

Ceremonies

Mark JFK

Assassination

United Press International

Flower petals served as public reminders of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy 13 years ago yesterday.

Flowers were placed on the hillside at Arlington National Cemetery where he is buried, in Dallas near where he was shot, and in Boston, once his home and political base.

In Dallas a decision to cancel the annual memorial observance turned it into a larger service than in past years. About 300 persons went to a 10-minute service, which was rescheduled at the last minute at the city's memorial to Kennedy.

"It's a strange thing," said John Sisson, head of the Kennedy Museum, created in Dallas seven years ago. "The mayor canceled the ceremonies because of lack of attendance and because the people didn't support it and now they apparently want to continue it."

At daybreak in Washington, members of the Kennedy family knelt in prayer at the graves of the slain President and his brother, Robert, who was assassinated less than five years later.

Meanwhile, Dallas police gathered records of the killing, subpoenaed by a House committee investigating assassinations.

JFK Anniversary *Post* 11-22-76

DALLAS—The formal city observance has been canceled, but a short prayer service and a moment of silence will mark the 13th anniversary today of President John F. Kennedy's assassination in Dallas.

The services at the Kennedy Memorial were hastily planned last week after city officials received some 500 phone calls protesting cancellation of the formal observance. Mayor Robert Folsom had called off a memorial service, citing "declining public interest."

Today's service will be held not far from the spot where the Warren Commission said Lee Harvey Oswald, acting alone, fired the shots that killed Kennedy.

"There will be no speeches," said Dallas County Democratic Chairman Ron Kessler, who organized the service.

Kennedy memorial draws 75

Braving cloudy skies and a chill wind, about 75 persons came to the John F. Kennedy Memorial at noon Wednesday to observe the 16th annual memorial service to the president slain in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963.

The service was held one day before the 16th anniversary of the assassination; the actual anniversary falls on the Thanksgiving holiday this year.

County Judge Garry Weber delivered the principal address, exhorting the viewers to remember "not so much the tragedy itself as the lessons we learned from it and are still learning."

He praised Dallas as a "more mature" city because of the assassination and said residents are "less concerned with our accomplishments than with what we ought to be doing."

A memorial was sung by the Eastfield College chamber singers and the college's wind ensemble provided music for the 30-minute ceremony.

Benjamin Morrison, Parker County Democratic chairman, read the eulogy that Robert Kennedy gave at his brother's funeral.

The service was sponsored by the Dallas County Democratic Party. A number of the spectators were politicians or their backers.

At least one person sported a campaign button for Sen. Edward Kennedy, the slain president's younger brother who is a presidential candidate.

Dallas Morning News 11/22/70



Dallas News: Jim Mahoney

Sandra McIntosh (left) and son Brian, 10, observe JFK service.