

In Memory of our President John F. Kennedy

JFK Honor Guard

Vol. 1, Issue 1, May-92

Welcome All (and everyone else too) !!

Thank you all for your co-operation, encouragement, contributions, stamps, suggestions, moral support! And for the "thought notes" for our first issue.

I feel like this newsletter is going to be good for us personally and hope that somewhere along the way, it brings good to others.

I guess being the editor and all, (!!) I should state a policy. I haven't really thought that far ahead, but I think we should all follow these general guidelines:

1. RESPECT OTHERS' FEELINGS !!

We all seem to have varying degrees of emotion about the JFK assassination and related events. Some of us have studied long and hard to find answers, and most of us come to believe that certain things we've discovered are pretty close to the truth. Others may not have studied as long, but we all know how our views seem to take on strong fervor. I'd like for us to admit that we all don't see the same things about Kennedy's death, or about Kennedy himself. But I encourage each of us to tolerate, if not accept, the views and emotions of others.

2. Strong cussing & ranting & raving should be the privilege of the Editor, only. I will generally edit out either from your notes printed in any issue.

JFK Honor Guard goals and procedures:

1. Some of you will want to write for the newsletter, while others won't. I'd encourage you all to make some written addition...if for no other reason than your input is welcome here. Variety of viewpoint and knowledge will benefit us all. Helpful, too, are your suggestions.

2. Issue dates: Lord willing and the Mac holding up, I will put together an issue for us the last week of each month.

3. I've explained to each of you about the generosity of the Service member who has enabled us to conveniently get this first issue together. For a limited time, I'll be able to E-mail with you to further newsletter publication. Be aware, though, at some point, we'll likely be using landmail (only) to coordinate our efforts. (also, thank you all for understanding the situation and humoring me on my E-mail paranoia!!!)

4. Giving issues to others: I know that some of you will wish to share this unique newsletter. That is up to you, but I would ask you to let me know who you share it with. The main reason is if I receive inquiries, I'd like to know how the person heard of us. Another reason is that I expect to be sending many of our paper out myself, and will have to post different issue costs to the general public. I want to be fair, but not silly!

Our President

John F. Kennedy

May 29, 1917

November 22, 1963



This should have been his 75th birthday. He would have been long retired from high office and the good or bad he could have done would be a part of our past.

Should--would--could--. Talk of what might have been. Words of potentiality. We will never know about these possibilities because a person or some persons chose to kill him.

JFK knew the risks of high office. But the odds that should have been in his favor, in contrast to the relatively unprotected Presidents in the past, were tipped against him. How this occurred is still being debated and investigated.

What makes JFK, and his death, so important? He won by a hair; did comparatively little prior to his death; was not exactly a paragon of virtue; made some vital mistakes; was an object of hate from large segments of the population.

He did one thing that supercedes all else: he gave people hope that they could be a part of a process long subverted; that the leadership would pay attention to the public, not with bribes and false promises, but with calls for public responsibility and interaction in the governing process. He told them that errors of the past could be corrected, if only the whole nation took part in changing what was wrong.

This was the true legacy of JFK, a possibility that exists even today, if we can just get leaders who think participatory democracy is not to be subverted but augmented.

And, if he was killed not by a lone nut but by a conspiracy involving sections of the government, alone or in conjunction with criminal elements-- and we can prove it--corrections can be made to insure that it not only never happens again, but deep faults in our governing process will be changed.

This is JFK's second legacy. We may realize that his death was not just a waste of potential greatness, but, by awakening the nation from its lethargy, a beginning of true progress, after the missed chances are analyzed and understood.

Kimball Wallis ©1992

JFK

Whatever else may be said of our late President Kennedy, few will deny that his time in the White House, with his lovely young wife and children, brought a glorious, charismatic "Camelot" image to our otherwise rather drab government. He was our Hero in a time when there were few heroes to be found. I will always believe he was giving his best for our country. He made friends for the United States everywhere he went, and his wife brought a gracious, elegant image to our country. The children were a delight to behold, as they played with their parents, who made time to be with them.

I think the cruelty of the tragic day in Dallas will never be entirely erased from our memories, as he gave the "last full measure of devotion" to our country. Who knows what he might have accomplished during his lifetime? He was young, vital and dedicated to his job, being President. He loved his country and his country loved him.

We all miss him, and no other President since John F. Kennedy has made us so proud of our country. Yes, he made mistakes. Don't we all? Or is somebody prepared to cast the "first stone?" I, among many others, I'm sure, will never forget his small son, Jon-Jon, saluting his father's casket in one of the most poignant scenes I have ever witnessed, along with his brave widow and daughter. I say now one last 'Goodbye' and "Hail to the Chief."

Margaret Matthews ©1992

May 1963

I wasn't aware then of JFK's birthday, but my family had just moved to an area right outside of D.C. and it was a very exciting place to live; something was always happening. While "Blowing in The Wind," "Surfin' USA," and "Telstar" played on the radio, Martin Luther King and the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee were marching on Birmingham; change was in the air, and it was a time of anticipation and hope. We were being led by the youngest president in US history and his aggressive Attorney General brother. We were pulling ahead in the "Space race" and the economy was good and the future seemed to look pretty good, too.

Not all was perfect; many Americans were nervous and upset still after the problems with Cuba, the conflict in SE Asia seemed to be escalating and here at home a Baptist Church in Birmingham had been bombed, killing four little girls, victims of the Civil Rights struggle. Later that summer, 3 college students also succumbed to the violence that met that peaceful movement.

Yet overall, we were enthusiastic about the times we were living in and what might be ahead. We could not know what would come in 6 months. We could not see the changes, not for the better, that our country would go through and would not have believed that we would raise our kids in a far more troubled society. In May of '63 we believed in our country, our government, our dreams and our ability to make them come about. It probably looked much the same to our 35th President on his 46th birthday.

Jessica Bischoff ©1992

JFK Remembered

I was attending R.D. White School in Glendale, California. The school is still there with its big white building, vast lawn, and beautiful sycamore trees.

I was in Mrs. Ford's 3rd grade class when I heard the announcement over the intercom system. The President had been shot! The class was stunned. What did it mean? The teacher led us in a prayer. A few minutes later the principal came into our room and announced John F. Kennedy's death. It was very sad. Like many school-children across the nation, I was allowed to go home early.

Our family was stunned. The old black and white TV was on for three days. I saw Lee Harvey Oswald murdered. I saw the funeral procession. I heard the final blowing of Taps. I still have the newspaper clippings of those events, though I need no such reminders: these scenes will be in my memory forever.

May 29th is JFK's birthday. He would have been 75 years old. Next year will be the 30th anniversary of his death. Obviously JFK was cut down in the prime. The assassination of President Kennedy was more than a crime of murder. It was a crime against all of us. Much has been written about JFK. Good or bad, right or wrong, he was our President and he was much loved.

His death changed history, and it changed our lives forever. That day in Dallas one family lost a husband, father, son, and brother. As a Nation, we lost our President and our innocence.

Happy Birthday, Mr. President. We miss you.

Gregory Brown ©1992

Dear Jack,

Well, here it is almost 29 years later. Where has time gone? Where did my years go? It seems like only yesterday, as I stood at the brink of maturity, that you were taken from me. Not through illness, or old age...but murdered.

You know I was still naive, trusting, then. You know the pride I took in our country, our flag...crying as I sang the Star Spangled Banner...a creaky song: but ours! Remember how I admired our military and KNEW they would take care of us, and help other countries who wanted a democracy like ours; who wanted to make their countries like the United States of America--the best and strongest and proudest country in the World!

Oh, Jack---what a President you made!! I had Truman; old gran'daddy that he was. I had Eisenhower...so confident with his great military background; but a bit too elderly and stodgy for me. And then I had you! Strong and dignified when our country needed it; dedicated to keeping us together and moving forward as countrymen...as brothers and sisters, as family. New to marriage and motherhood myself, I watched the First Family. ALL the First Family! What fun you all had, when you weren't working to keep America moving! How proud (but envious) I was of Jackie's class and beauty! And your kids were healthy, happy, cared for and respected. Just like I thought America would always be.

But you were stolen from me: incredibly! I read the Warren Report. I've read hundreds of books about your assassination in these 29 years. But I still don't know why. Sometimes I think if I could just know Who and Why, I could lay down this burden of sadness, this grief at losing you...my President, my brother. No, Jack, I haven't forgotten you.

This JFK Honor Guard is a Birthday present to you; notes from these few who are representing the Americans who will never forget what you meant to us and our country.

As ever,
Deanie

W.B. Richards ©1992

One of Our Own

Many of you have read the posted notes of Gary Savage. Some of you may not know that he has been researching and gathering material for two years for his book concerning JFK assassination-related evidence.

Soon he will present his book, JFK: FIRST DAY EVIDENCE.

Making Gary's book unique in the field is his collection of interviews (some "first-time-given" ones!) of people familiar with the workings of the Dallas Police Crime Lab in Nov. 1963. One of Gary's special interests is the sixth floor crime scene as found by Dallas City and County lawmen. He'll also share with us is the "acoustic evidence" -- the DPD tape's origin and later analysis by DPD Communications Dept.

Gary Savage has his own views about what happened that day, and while he will present much evidence just as found by Dallas lawmen (including photos, interviews, etc), his book will emphasize no theory, serving only to give us additional material to help us make up our own mind on the events. At last report, he is moving closer to publication. Gary Savage & The Shoppe Press P.O.Box 2741 Monroe, LA 71207-2741

Letter from Ted Kennedy

One of our group received a letter from Sen. Edward Kennedy, in reply to questions about re-opening the government files.

The Senator wrote [concerning the JFK issue] that the "continuing debate is still a difficult & painful subject for my family."

He adds "if the appropriate authorities feel the existing files should be opened to the public, our family will not object."

JFK HONOR GUARD RATES

Our HONOR GUARD has been created so that each of us may more directly interact on issues about JFK's assassination.

As a subscriber, you are encouraged to send me articles, suggestions, lists (book shops, video sales places, 'coincidences', Dead Witnesses, facts, etc etc etc.) and "thought notes." (ETC!) Issues will vary in number of pages, and central "themes."

Any material not used in one issue may be used in a later one. I will also print your name and home state, unless you say not to.

For \$15.00 you will receive the first 12 issues. Send money order to:

Deanie Richards
PO Box 3724 Akron, OH 44314

● How did you hear about JFK HONOR GUARD??

Your Form Answers

Thank those of you who sent the form back to help us decide what is of interest.

AND THE WINNERS ARE!!

Most of you want to develop source lists for a. newsletters b. videos c. hard-to-find book shops d. small publisher addresses e. study groups
One other would like to have a source list for audio and record media. Another suggests gathering autographs of the historically important. Here's a start:

1. *Deanie Richards*
(well, ya never know!!!)

Most are interested in starting lists of a. questions b. discoveries c. Who did it
Another mentioned listing Trivia items concerning the ass'n, a "did you know" list and making a list about events 1-10 years ago, 20 yrs ago.

All of you are interested in a campaign to open the files. Mixed on sharing your addresses. Mixed on signing articles. Most are for various reviews and having our own articles included. All responding think this newsletter is a good idea.

As I've written you previously (E-mail) this newsletter is going to be for us, and it will grow and change as we go along. This issue appropriately starts with our words about John Kennedy's life and death.

Subjects to think about for the next issue:
Which lists do we want to concentrate on
first? SOURCES FOR

1. videos
2. hard-to-find book shops
3. small publisher addresses
4. newsletters
5. study groups
6. record/cassette sources
7. other

I personally would like to start a DEAD LIST (no! this is different than a Hit List!) I think it would be relatively simple for all of us to send in notation of those witnesses, cops, gov't folk, agents, newsmen, evidence/testimony providers, and/or involved with ass'n who have died since mid-1963. I'll get the lists from Acc./Fact and Conspiracy. Tell me what you think.

JFK

Honor Guard

Vol. 1. Issue 1, May-92