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COVER STORY

Burial private but many feel her loss

Farewell to
much-admired
first lady:

- ▶ Guests, **2A**
- ▶ Crowds, **3A**
- ▶ TV, **3D**

By Andrea Stone
and Mimi Hall
USA TODAY

ARLINGTON, Va. — The woman who taught a nation how to mourn and then to go on living was buried here Monday, beside the eternal flame she lit 31 years ago for her slain husband.

In ceremonies as private as her life, Jacqueline Kennedy

Onassis was remembered for her style and strength, a woman whose death seems to define the end of an era.

At a small graveside service in Arlington National Cemetery, President Clinton praised the former first lady as a "remarkable woman whose life will forever glow in the lives of her fellow Americans."

Earlier, at a funeral Mass in New York, Sen. Edward Kennedy eulogized his sister-in-law as "a blessing to us and to the nation. . . . She graced our history. And for those of us who knew and loved her — she graced our lives."

Onassis died Thursday at 64 of cancer in New York.

To many of the sad and curious who flocked to her Fifth Avenue apartment building or watched retrospectives on television, Jackie's death seemed too abrupt and too soon. She had lived three decades beyond the spotlight, yet the

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'SHE GRACED OUR HISTORY'

Nation remembers Jackie, who 'held us together'



By J. David Ake, Agence France-Pressa
FAREWELL: Caroline Kennedy Schlossberg kneels at her mother's casket.



John by Gary Hershorn, Reuters couple by Reuters/Bettmann
FATHER RECALLED, TOO: John Kennedy Jr. pauses to touch his father's gravestone after the burial service for his mother, top. Above, Jacqueline Bouvier posed in Hyannisport, Mass., with John F. Kennedy in 1953.

TUESDAY, MAY 24, 1994

JACQUELINE KENNEDY



By Susan Ragan, AP

Farewell to

“God gave her very great gifts and imposed upon with dignity and grace and uncommon common

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ONASSIS (1929-94)

a first lady

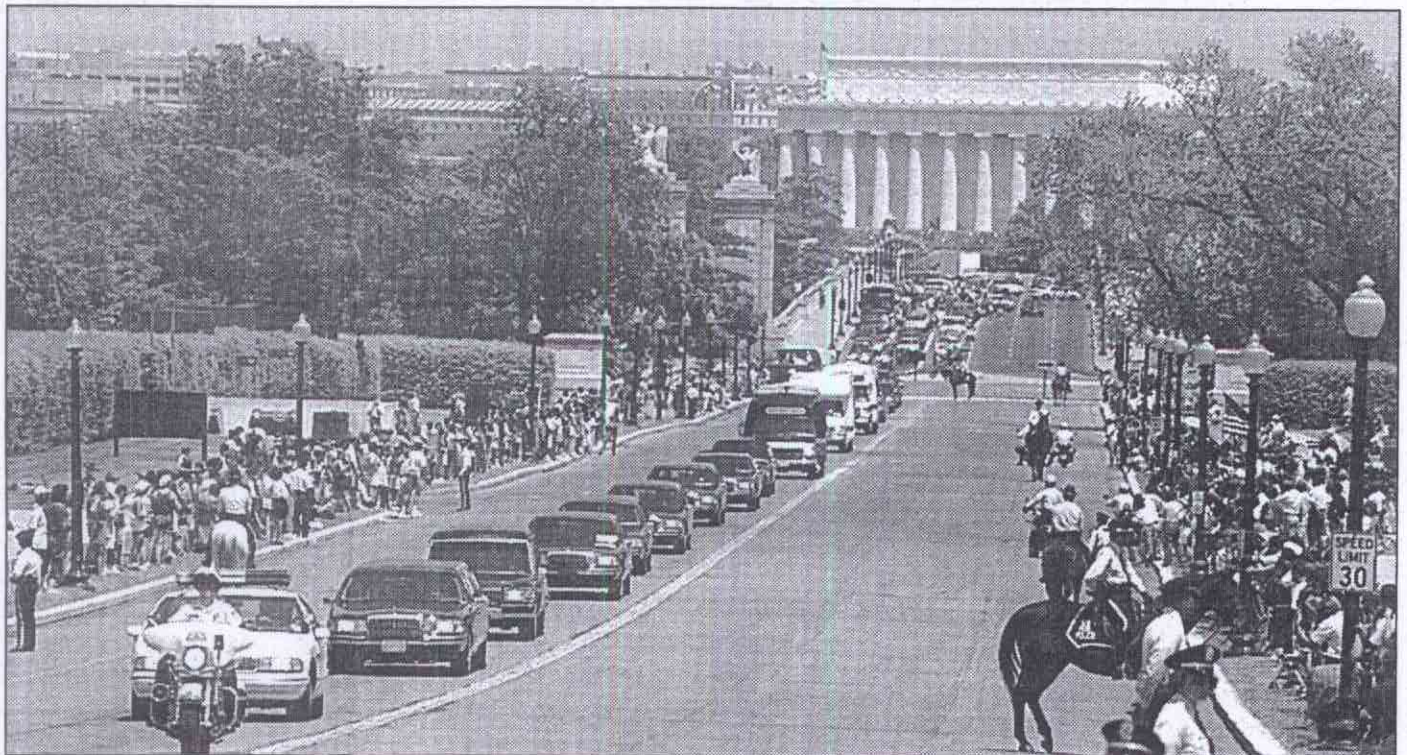
her great burdens. She bore them all
sense.” — President Clinton, at Arlington Cemetery

CLOSEST FAMILY: Maurice Tempelsman, right, longtime companion of Mrs. Onassis, waits outside the former first lady's Fifth Avenue apartment in New York with John F. Kennedy Jr. and Caroline Kennedy Schlossberg and her husband, Edwin. Tempelsman read the poem 'Ithaca' by Constantine Peter Cavafy, during the Mass. Excerpts:

*'Keep Ithaca always in
your mind,
Arriving there is what
you're destined for,
But don't hurry the jour-
ney at all,
Better if it lasts for years
so you're old by the time you
reach the islands,
Wealthy with all you've
gained on the way, not expect-
ing Ithaca to make you rich.
Ithaca gave you the mar-
velous journey,
Without her, you wouldn't
have set out,
She has nothing left to
give you now.*



By David Burns, AP



By Kevin Eans, USA TODAY

IN WASHINGTON, D.C.: The funeral procession heads toward Arlington National Cemetery. In the background: the Lincoln Memorial.



By Ray Stubblebine, Reuters

'SHE HELD US TOGETHER': Sen. Edward Kennedy, shown here with wife, Victoria Reggie, delivered the Mass eulogy. Excerpts:

'No one else looked like her, spoke like her, wrote like her, or was so original in the way she did things. No one we knew ever had a better sense of self.

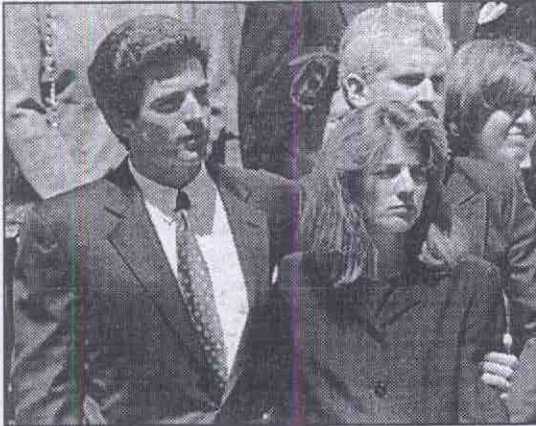
And then, during those four endless days in 1963, she held us together as a family and a country. In large part because of her, we could grieve and then go on. She lifted us up, and in the doubt and darkness, she gave her fellow citizens back their pride as Americans. She was then 34 years old.

Afterward, as the eternal flame she lit flickered in the autumn of Arlington Cemetery, Jackie went on to do what she most wanted — to raise Caroline and John, and warm her family's life and that of all the Kennedys.

Her two children turned out to be extraordinary, honest, unspoiled and with a character equal to hers. And she did it in the most trying of circumstances. They are her two miracles. Her love for Caroline and John was deep and unqualified. She reveled in their accomplishments, she hurt with their sorrows, and she felt sheer joy and delight in spending time with them. At the mere mention of one of their names, Jackie's eyes would shine brighter and her smile would grow bigger.

She never wanted public notice — in part, I think, because it brought back painful memories of an unbearable sorrow, endured in the glare of a million lights.

In all the years since then, her genuineness and depth of character continued to shine through the privacy, and reach people everywhere. Jackie was too young to be a widow in 1963, and too young to die now.'



By Jim Bourg, Reuters

THE CHILDREN: Caroline Kennedy Schlossberg and John F. Kennedy Jr. wait as their mother's body is loaded into a hearse before the trip to Washington. Schlossberg read a favorite poem of Mrs. Onassis' during the funeral. Excerpts from 'Memory of Cape Cod' by Edna St. Vincent Millay:

'The wind in the ash tree sounds like surf on the shore at Truro.

I will shut my eyes.

Hush. Be still with your silly pleading sheep on Shilling Stone Hill

They said, come along.

They said, leave your pebbles on the sand and come along.

It's long after sunset

The mosquitoes will be thick in the pine woods along by Long Neck.

The winds died down. They said, leave your pebbles on the sand and your shells too and come along

We'll find you another beach like the beach at Truro.

*Let me listen to the wind in the ash
It sounds like surf on the shore.'*



By Ray Stubblebine, Reuters

FIRST LADY: Hillary Rodham Clinton talks to John F. Kennedy Jr. after the Mass. Kennedy read from Isaiah 25 at the burial:

'The Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces. The reproach of his people he will remove from the whole earth. For the Lord hath spoken. On that day it will be said: Behold our God to whom we look to save us. This is the Lord for whom we looked. Let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us.'



By Greg Gibson, AP

PRESIDENTIAL CONDOLENCE: President Clinton shakes hands with John F. Kennedy Jr. after the burial in Arlington Cemetery. Excerpts from the president's graveside eulogy:

'We are joined here today at the site of the eternal flame, lit by Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis 31 years ago, to bid farewell to this remarkable woman whose life will forever glow in the lives of her fellow Americans.'

Whether she was soothing a nation grieving for a former president, or raising the children with the care and the privacy they deserve, or simply being a good friend, she seemed always to do the right thing, in the right way.

She taught us by example about the beauty of art, the meaning of culture, the lessons of history, the power of personal courage, the nobility of public service, and most of all, the sanctity of family.

God gave her very great gifts and imposed upon her great burdens. She bore them all with dignity and grace and uncommon common sense. . . .

Hillary and I are especially grateful that she took so much time to talk about the importance of raising children away from the public eye, and we will always remember the wonderful, happy times we shared together last summer. With admiration, love and gratitude, for the inspirations and the dreams she gave to all of us, we say goodbye to Jackie today.

May the flame she lit, so long ago, burn ever brighter here and always brighter in our hearts.

God bless you, friend, and farewell.'



By Elise Amendola, AP

IN NEW YORK: John F. Kennedy Jr., left rear, and his sister, Caroline Kennedy Schlossberg, follow the casket of their mother as it is carried out of St. Ignatius Loyola Roman Catholic Church.

A role model, a mystery, a legend

By Mimi Hall and Peter Eisler
USA TODAY

ARLINGTON, Va. — They came to the gates of Arlington National Cemetery from everywhere — a mix of generations, a mix of races, drawn by a woman and a memory.

They came to say goodbye to Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, each using this last moment on a sunny Monday afternoon to somehow recapture the legacy of her era.

Howard Riddick made the sad journey, much as he had in 1963, when he waited and wept with thousands of others for more than 11 hours to pay his last respects to John F. Kennedy at the Capitol.

He had been to slain civil rights activist Medgar Evers' funeral just months earlier. He would later attend the funerals of Bobby Kennedy and Martin Luther King Jr.

"I came for what they stood for and what they were trying to do and how they disappeared," Riddick said as he waited. "I sort of felt I should be here, too."

Jim Goudie, a retired Air Force sergeant who was at Andrews Air Force Base when JFK's casket arrived from Dallas, came to honor the legacy of the civil rights movement.

"She was always the first lady to me, and to black people in general," said Goudie. The Kennedys "really set the trend for us, and they passed that to



By Matt Mendelsohn, USA TODAY

VISITORS: Howard and Martha Riddick of Portsmouth, Va., view the funeral procession.

LBJ, who carried on what I'm sure President Kennedy would have done (in civil rights) if he were alive."

Norman and Florence Reno of Oak Lawn, Ill., came, remembering the election that put the first Catholic couple in the White House.

"My wife and I are Catholics, ... so there's a real connection there," said Reno, 64. "It feels like a family member lost."

Shelley Walker came to honor a role model, a woman she watched and admired as girl.

"I was 13 years old when the president died and watching her made me grow up," said Walker, 44, a staffer at the Clinton White House. "I really ad-

mired her, all the things everybody says, the strength, the grace, the mystery."

John Clizbe, 32, an unemployed engineer from Burke, Va., is too young to remember the turbulent 1960s.

But "I was named after Kennedy," he said. "And I came to get a feeling of being a part of history."

Nearly everyone standing quietly to watch the hearse pass spoke about their memories of a time gone by.

Kristin Cabral, 28, wasn't born when JFK was assassinated. But he "left a legacy, most primarily, of service. That was very vital to me growing up — that it's important to do service for others," she said.

As the curbside, mourners tried to shield themselves from the heat of the bright spring day, many stared out across the Potomac River, wondering what had been lost.

"She kept the people's respect and that's hard to do today," said Carolyn Edwards, 56, who came from Mason-town, Va. "It sounds like a cliché, but she's the closest thing to royalty that we as Americans have."

Could any one else have brought Riddick from his Portsmouth, Va., home for this roadside vigil?

"In politics? No, not right now. Nobody's worthy."

Said Theresa Gogat, 58, of Springfield, Va.: "I don't think there'll ever be anyone like those two. It's just the end of an era."