

Different Names--Same Tragedy

Private Rites for

By JEAN HELLER
Associated Press

NEW YORK — It was a different time. A different place. A different woman. A different coffin.

Yet, somehow, it seemed all the same. Another Kennedy widow mourned her assassinated husband.

The long hot Thursday dawned into a bright, hot Friday, but for Ethel Kennedy and members of her family, nothing changed. The grief went grimly on. It was, for the most part, private grief.

ALL-NIGHT VIGIL

For the slain Sen. Robert Kennedy's only surviving brother, Edward, it was the end of a night-long vigil beside the casket in the quiet, dark cathedral. When he left the vigil, there were others to take it up, four at a time.

Among them was Robert Kennedy's son, Robert Jr., 14, who arrived at St. Patrick's Cathedral shortly before 8 a.m. to take a turn beside his father's catafalque.

Minutes later, the senator's mother, Rose, was escorted by a patrolman past the thousands filing through the cathedral to a seat near the main altar. She was dressed in black and went practically unnoticed as she sat praying silently.

At mid-morning several of the Kennedy family attended a brief private prayer service at Holy Family Church around the corner from the Robert Kennedy apartment on Manhattan's East Side.

After the service, conducted by Msgr. William J. McCormick, director of the Catholic Church's Society for the Propagation of the Faith, the first to leave was the senator's mother, Mrs. Rose Kennedy.

TWO WIDOWS

About an hour later, the two Kennedy widows visited the African mahogany coffin in St. Patrick's Cathedral.

Mrs. Robert Kennedy arrived first, with three of her children, sat quietly by the catafalque, touched the coffin softly and was gone.

Mrs. John Kennedy arrived a few minutes later. Alone she knelt in prayer in a nearby pew.

At no time since Robert



Heads held proud and high, Edward M. Kennedy, Ethel Kennedy and Joseph III, 15, leave cathedral.

—UPI Photo

Kennedy's death early yesterday morning had the family's now-legendary composure failed them in public.

That self-control was most evident in the senator's widow last night at La Guardia Airport when she brought her husband home for the last time.

Her set face, her slim, straight body that moved unsupported, the solid determination that there would be, in the midst of madness, some dignity, were all reminiscent of another time, another place, another coffin, another widow.

Law School Cancels Finals

CAMBRIDGE (Mass.) — (AP) — Harvard law school has canceled the rest of its final examinations out of respect for the memory of Sen. Robert Kennedy.

The cancellation followed the request of 150 first-year students who said they "felt emotionally incapable" of taking the examination in the wake of the assassination.

Family—Most in Seclusion



On the arm of her grandson, Robert Jr., Mrs. Rose Kennedy attends still another funeral for a son.



Eyes straight ahead, Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy, escorted by Prince Radziwill, walks into the cathedral.