

## The 4th Kennedy Son

### Edward Moore Kennedy

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WASHINGTON, July 26— Like many young men who grew up in the shadow of impressive older brothers, Edward Moore Kennedy has always had a gift for relaxed persistence. With John F. Kennedy in the White House and Robert F. Kennedy in the Cabinet, "Ted" Kennedy developed a style as a freshman Senator that combined easy-going affability with his peers and a passion for excellence in his own work.

"Ted always had time for the pleasant gesture," a former staff member recalls. "He could afford to. He and his staff had always worked so hard that his homework was done and he knew it."

When Senator Kennedy took himself out of consideration today for the Democratic nomination for Vice President, he said in his statement that he would continue to be active in public life.

#### Stature on the Job

Those who have worked with him in the Senate or observed his performance noted this with satisfaction. They said that he had gained stature in responding to the demands of Senate work.

President Kennedy once called his youngest brother "the best politician in the family, saying that Edward had the good looks and easy manner for political success."

It is now widely believed that he is one of the most able, young legislators on Capitol Hill.

Mr. Kennedy was born in Brookline, Mass., Feb. 2, 1932, one of nine children and the fourth son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph P. Kennedy. He followed his older brothers to Harvard, where he had a mediocre record and had to leave college after the school authorities discovered that a classmate had taken an exam in his name.

He enlisted in the Army and after two years returned to Harvard, graduating in 1956.

Later, when he ran for the Democratic Senate nomination in 1962, he was ridiculed as a "bonus baby," and his opponent, Edward S. McCormack Jr., declared in a televised debate that if his name had been "Edward Moore," he would never have been in the race.



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*"The best politician in the family."*

#### Reputation for Work

Stories began to circulate about the expulsion from Harvard, and Mr. Kennedy decided to make a public statement.

Despite the personal attacks — perhaps partly because of it, some observers thought—Mr. Kennedy won the primary and the election handily.

Almost from his first appearance in the senate, his reputation for thorough preparation and attention to detail began to grow.

One of his idiosyncracies is "the briefcase." Whenever Senator Kennedy leaves Washington, a briefcase crammed with work leaves with him, and he plows through it in airplanes, hotel rooms and limousines, always finishing before the end of the day.

Meanwhile, his Washington staff is cramming another briefcase, which is dispatched to him on a latter commercial flight. For each day of his absence, another briefcase goes out, to be worked on through during the day.

Despite his work habits, Mr. Kennedy has the Irish politician's love for "pressing the flesh," and he is popular with Democrats because he freely presses it in their home constituencies to help them get elected.

People in Omaha, still recall how, when campaigning with Philip Sorensen in his race

for Governor in 1966, Mr. Kennedy would periodically stop the motorcade and pull the more retiring Mr. Sorensen into shops and office building for backslapping and handshaking forays among the potential voters.

A 6-foot-2-inch, 200-pound former Harvard football player (at end), Senator Kennedy until recently swam and golfed. But lately he has had little time for athletics and has devoted almost all of his recreation time to his favorite sport—sailing.

Intimate associates say that Mr. Kennedy is not despondent now over the death of Robert Kennedy and that it is not his manner to demonstrate his sadness.

The Senator is married to the former Joan Bennett of New York. They have three children—Edward M. Jr., 6 years old; Kara, 8, and Joseph, 1.