

WHO'S WHO

Frances Moffat

The Blossoming Of Joan Kennedy

THE TRAGEDIES Joan Kennedy has faced in the past seven years have made the wife of Senator Edward Kennedy a stronger, more mature and compassionate woman.

Betty Hannah Hoffman, in private life Mrs. Robert Hoffman, the Berkeley writer who interviewed Mrs. Kennedy for a two - installment series for the Ladies' Home Journal, was tremendously impressed with the frankness the senator's wife displayed during the week they spent together last March.

"I did a story on Joan in 1962 for one of the How America Lives features for the Journal," said Mrs. Hoffman. "When the magazine wanted another piece on her, she remembered me and asked if I could write it."

In the first of the series, wire services picked up parts of the article, quoting Mrs. Kennedy as saying she lives in constant fear for her husband's life and emphatically does not want him to be the President.

There are many other personal insights into the 33-year-old senator's wife. She tells of her first

year in Washington in 1962, when Ted was elected to the Senate and many accused him of riding in on the coattail of his brother Jack.

"We avoided the White House like a plague," Mrs. Kennedy told Betty Hoffman.

In 1963, Joan decided to give her first big dinner party to celebrate their fifth wedding anniversary. She chose Friday, November 22, engaged an orchestra and hired a caterer for a sitdown dinner.

"One of Ted's aides phoned early in the afternoon," the article reports, "to say that President Kennedy had been shot . . . like millions of other Americans, Joan sank down in front of the television in horrified disbelief. All thoughts of the anniversary party fled her mind until the caterers began to arrive."

Betty Hoffman believes that Joan Kennedy "is a beautiful woman, inside and out."

Joan said she admires Jackie Onassis "more and more. I've met Ari (Onassis) only once, but he struck me as a person of great charm and fun to be with.

"People criticize Jackie for going her own way where the Kennedys are concerned but this family can be overwhelming.

Betty Hoffman stayed at the Kennedys' McLean, Va., home, which Joan frankly said cost \$500,000 to build and furnish. Yet she told the Berkeley writer she and her husband couldn't afford expensive art.

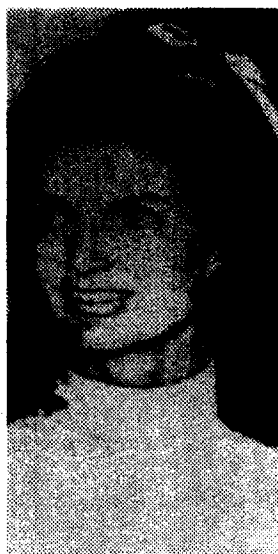
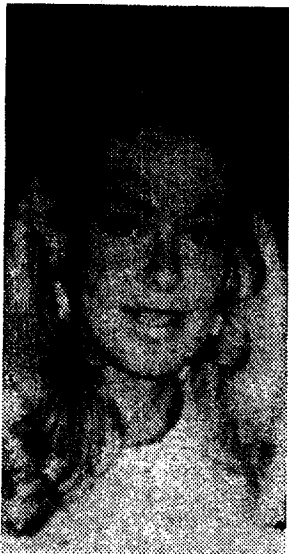
"Oh, I won't try to tell you," Joan said, "that the Kennedy family isn't rich. But much of what's written about is conglomerate wealth . . . we really don't have the use of all that money. It's in trust funds. Actually, it costs Ted money to be a United States senator."

June Wedding Echoes

Stephen Peabody Crocker and his bride, the former Diane (Dede) Snow, are in Nova Scotia shopping for an apple farm on their honeymoon.

It's in keeping with their wedding in a bucolic setting, the Inverness home of Mrs. Robert Wells, with dogs romping in the garden and children on swings. The bride wore a long voile print skirt and a white tulle gown, casual in jeans and a white shirt after the ceremony.

Dede is the daughter of a Cauchois of San Jose, Calif. Mavis is the daughter of a San Jose, Calif. Mavis is the daughter of a San Jose, Calif. Mavis is the daughter of a San Jose, Calif.



IN A frank interview, Mrs. Edward Kennedy said she admires Jackie Onassis "more and more"