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## Thousands Visit Kennedy's Grave on Day of Mourning



Mrs. Robert F. Kennedy kneeling yesterday with son Joseph at grave of Senator Kennedy in Arlington National Cemetery. Wooden cross marks grave.

Associated Press

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Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, June 9 —

Thousands of persons walked through Arlington National Cemetery today to see Robert F. Kennedy's grave as President Johnson led the nation in a day of mourning.

The crowd here stood back hushed at mid-morning as Mr. Kennedy's widow, Mrs. Ethel Kennedy, and his oldest son, Joseph, 15 years old, visited the grave, already neatly sodded and marked with a plain white cross.

They were accompanied by Roosevelt Grier, a professional football player, and Rafer Johnson, a former Olympic decathlon champion, who were with Senator Kennedy when he was shot in Los Angeles Wednesday morning. Andy Williams, the singer, also was in the group.

They knelt in prayer a few minutes, then Mrs. Kennedy laid a single blossom on the grave and they left.

The crowd parted at 12:10 P.M. and Mrs. John F. Kennedy, her eyes hidden behind dark glasses, walked through and

knelt at the grave. She was accompanied by her two children, Caroline and John F. Kennedy Jr., and by her sister Mrs. Lee Radziwill, and her brother-in-law, Prince Stanislas Radziwill.

Other members of the Kennedy family remained in seclusion at the slain Senator's home, Hickory Hill, in nearby McLean, Va.

President and Mrs. Johnson attended private religious services at the White House. The services were conducted by the Rev. Billy Graham.

It was a day of calm, in contrast to the hectic day of the funeral and burial.

From the time of the pontifical requiem mass yesterday morning in St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York to the burial late last night at Arlington, hundreds of thousands of persons had taken some part, if only to watch the passing of the funeral train, in Mr. Kennedy's final rites.

Yesterday had been scarred by mishaps. A man and a woman watching the funeral train were struck and killed by a

northbound train at Elizabeth, N.J., and an 18-year-old youth at Trenton was burned critically by an electric wire.

Today the pace was disturbed only by the murmur of voices and the occasional whir of cameras as the thousands of mourners and sightseers filed past the adjacent graves of the two Kennedy brothers.

The people who came were respectful but, for the most part, not noticeably dejected.

Typical of the visitors was a

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middle-aged woman who paused and looked at the new grave, studied it a moment with a critical eye and then said softly, "When they get the flowers on, I think it will look nice."

Robert Kennedy's mahogany casket finally was lowered into the earth at 11:34 P.M. yesterday after the graveside services had been finished and the last of the family and friends had gone.

Meanwhile, a crowd gathered outside the main gate of the cemetery and some 50 persons remained there all night.

#### 300 As Gates Open

About 300 were outside the gate when it was opened at 8 A.M. today.

As the first to enter filed up the slope, they found that the grave had been so carefully filled and sodded that the earth looked virtually undisturbed.

The line going up the hill was thin at first, but as the sun went higher and the heat increased, it became thicker.

Automobiles formed a nearly solid line across Memorial Bridge, leading to the cemetery entrance.

Without direction, the visitors formed into lines in the marble and granite memorial that holds the bodies of John F. Kennedy and his two infant children.

They moved in order around the sides of the memorial, skirting the wisp of heat from the eternal flame, as their eyes sought the newest of the graves.

It was not easy to find. Huge sprays of flowers had been laid on the hillside, and some thought the grave was marked by one of the sprays.

Many had to ask the marine guards for the location. The guards spoke quietly and pointed to the small white cross a few feet beyond the hedged of the memorial. The cross was at



Associated Press.

**AT GRAVESIDE:** Mrs. John F. Kennedy kneeling with son, John Jr., and daughter, Caroline, at Senator Kennedy's grave in Arlington yesterday. The children brought flowers.

the head of the grave, a small batch of flowers at the foot.

While Mrs. Robert Kennedy remained at the cemetery only a few minutes, Mrs. John Kennedy stayed almost half an hour.

She and those with her went first to the grave of Robert Kennedy. They knelt about a

minute. Caroline left a small bouquet on the grass.

They stood briefly under the shade of the Japanese magnolia tree that shelters the new grave, and then moved inside the hedges of the John F. Kennedy Memorial.

Mrs. Kennedy knelt and prayed at the grave of her

husband, and the others did likewise.

She crossed herself, rose, and then knelt briefly at the grave of each infant.

The line of sightseers dissolved and the people, about 500 of them, formed a circle around her.

Paying no heed to the audience, or the reporters making notes and the photographers snapping pictures, Mrs. Kennedy left the memorial and walked to the largest flower spray. She and her sister talked quietly as they examined it. Then the group moved slowly across the steep hill and looked at all the flowers.

With a faint smile, Mrs. Kennedy led the group to the top of the hill. They stood for several minutes in front of the Lee Mansion, gazing across the

Potomac toward Washington.

In the distance they could see the Jefferson and Lincoln Memorials and the Washington Monument. Fifty yards down the hill west of the Kennedy graves lay the tomb of the first person known to be buried in Arlington, a Virginian named Mary Randolph, who was a cousin of Thomas Jefferson and Robert E. Lee.

Smiling distinctly now, Mrs. Kennedy finally walked through the hallway of the Lee Mansion and out the other side to a waiting station wagon.

Her demeanor was not unlike that of many in the throng filing past the new grave. Some came dressed in black, as she did but most showed few signs of somberness. This crowd carried little of the crushing sad-

ness that was evident in the crowds that started the procession up the same hill in November, 1963.

But for others, of course, there was a death in the family.

After her brief visit to the cemetery, Mrs. Robert Kennedy returned to Hickory Hill. She is pregnant with her 11th child.

Mrs. Joseph P. Kennedy, the Senator's mother, was at the

McLean home of her last son, Senator Edward M. Kennedy, before returning to Hyannis Port, Mass., to join her husband. The elder Kennedy was not able to attend his son's funeral.

The funeral in St. Patrick's cathedral had been attended by more than 2,300 persons, including President Johnson.

Others in the congregation included four of the men who had counted themselves as rivals of Mr. Kennedy for the Presidency—Vice President Humphrey, Senator Eugene J. McCarthy, Governor Rockefeller and Richard M. Nixon.

#### Cooke at Mass

The funeral mass was celebrated by Archbishop Terence J. Cooke of New York.

Richard Cardinal Cushing of Boston eulogized this Kennedy as he had his brother 4½ years ago.

In the spirit of the Ecumenical Council, the funeral included a white-robed choir singing the Hallelujah Chorus from Handel's "Messiah." Andy Williams sang "The Battle Hymn of the Republic."

There was also a stirring eulogy from Edward Kennedy, who declared:

"My brother need not be idealized or enlarged in death beyond what he was in life. He should be remembered simply as a good and decent man, who saw wrong and tried to right it, saw suffering and tried to heal it, saw war and tried to stop it."

After the mass, which lasted 1 hour 40 minutes, the flag-draped coffin was taken by hearse down Fifth Avenue and across 34th Street to Pennsylvania Station, where it was put on a 21-car train for Washington.

The journey here, which normally takes 4 hours by train. Lasted 8 hours and 6 minutes.

The speed of the train deliberately was kept slow, and the crowds on and around the tracks slowed it even more.

The crowds were so thick in Baltimore that the train had to creep through town at 5 miles an hour. Many of the funeral party were severely fatigued as they left the train in Union Station here and joined a long motorized procession to Arlington.

Thousands of persons lined the procession route here.

The cortege moved slowly past the Senate Office Building, the Capitol, the Justice Department—where Mr. Kennedy once served as Attorney General—past "Resurrection City, U. S. A.," the home of the Poor People's Campaign, past the Lincoln Memorial, and finally across the Potomac to the cemetery.

Patrick Cardinal O'Boyle, Archbishop of Washington, said a few words at the graveside, officiating in the absence of Cardinal Cushing, who had taken ill on the trip to Washington.

The flag on the coffin was folded and given to Ethel Kennedy. Then President and Mrs. Johnson shook hands with her and with Edward Kennedy, and the mourners left.

The service ended at 10:45 P.M. The coffin was kept above ground until all had gone.

#### New Burial Place

WASHINGTON, June 9 (AP)

—A spokesman for the Kennedy family said the grave in which Mr. Kennedy's coffin now rested would not be the permanent burial place, but that it would be in the same general area.

He said some simple memorial would be designed, but that no plans had been drawn, no architect selected and no landscaping features decided on.