



JFK REMEMBERED

'Raw History'

"It is the hope that the people in all our 50 states can put a stop to this Hootenany era in which man is whining so loud for recognition and refuses to believe understanding and good will is perhaps the right answer after all. As the late President (Kennedy) so ably said it in his inaugural speech, we should not think of what the country must do for us, but what we must do for the country."

YANKTON PRESS & DAKOTAN

Nov. 25, 1963



CECIL STOUGHTON/JOHN F. KENNEDY PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM/MCT

President John F. Kennedy and first lady Jacqueline Kennedy descend the stairs from Air Force One at Love Field in Dallas, on Nov. 22, 1963.

History

From Page 1

an assassin's bullet. To this day when I make that particular salad, I remember President and Mrs. Kennedy.

A special memorial service was held at Trinity Lutheran Church in Sidney the Monday morning following the assassination and several churches in the community followed suit.

It was truly a time of deep mourning that such a tragedy could happen in our United States of America.

KATHERN MCINTOSH, YANKTON

It's Friday, Nov. 22, 1963. Tomorrow is Dad's birthday; he'll be 44. Thanksgiving is less than a week away. I'm in eighth grade this year and have four classmates. We go to a small country school. In fact, there are about 12-15 students and half of them are my brothers and sisters.

Anyway, it is about 12:45 p.m. and lunch is over; it's time for art class to begin. We are going to have a taffy pull today. Mrs. Rose Arrundale is cooking up the taffy and Mary Lou (her granddaughter) and I are going to get the taffy.

Grandma Rose's house is just across the alley so it's no big thing. As we walk into the kitchen we saw her standing very still listening to the radio. Grandma Rose finally noticed us but she was pretty white and she was crying. We thought she might be sick and ran to help her sit down.

When Grandma Rose finally got things together, she told us that President Kennedy had been shot but she didn't have much further information. We asked if she still wanted us to pull the taffy for her, she laughed and brought us the cooked taffy with instructions to be careful it was hot.

We ran back to the school and asked the teacher to put on the radio, almost forgetting about the taffy again. For the rest of that afternoon, the whole school pulled taffy and listened intently to the radio. About 1:30 p.m., the news fi-

nally came that Kennedy was dead and plans were under way to have Lyndon B. Johnson sworn in as the 36th President.

Like most of the older girls in the school, I was in love with Kennedy and took it hard. I don't remember Dad's birthday or anything special about Thanksgiving that year, but I do remember where I was and what I was doing when John Kennedy was assassinated.

DAN JOHNSON, CROFTON, NEB.

I was in San Antonio, Texas, on Nov. 21, 1963. I was in the U.S. army and a member of the III Corps at Fort Hood, Texas. I worked in the G3 section (maneuvers). We were doing a paper military exercise, and we were given time off to go see President Kennedy in a parade through downtown San Antonio.

The next day we were shocked when we heard that President Kennedy had been shot. We were immediately put on full alert and sent back to Fort Hood. The III Corps had a storage facility with all of our equipment ready to go within 24 hours any where in the world. After it was determined that the President had been shot by a lone assassin, we were taken off full alert.

A few weeks later I was given leave to go home to South Dakota. The attitude of many people at that time was that of anger toward Texas. The newspapers were reporting violence such as breaking car windows of cars with Texas license plates. When I crossed the Texas border I placed a sign in my window stating that I was in the Army, but that I was not from Texas. There was a fear in the country at that time that was not rational.

It was a difficult time for us and for our country.

DOUG SALL, YANKTON

It was Saturday morning, around 8-8:30 a.m., Nov. 23, 1963. Strangely, a voice came over the loud speaker directing us to "fall out" immediately! As a member of the 1st Cavalry Division and posi-

tioned some nine miles from the DMZ in South Korea, all kinds of thoughts were swirling around as I joined the troops who were quickly assembling.

Then, the bombshell! President Kennedy, we were told, had been assassinated around noon in Dallas, Texas, on Friday. (When it was 12:30 p.m., CST, here, Nov. 22, 1963, it was 3:30 a.m., Saturday, Nov. 23, in Seoul, a 15-hour difference.) The entire company was stunned, but within two minutes or so we were released and returned to whatever it was that we were doing for the weekend.

To be sure, it's a strange feeling being half-way around the world when something this horrific happens back home.

I later learned that the military, world-wide, had been placed on varying degrees of alert as it was unclear who or what was behind the killing. The cover of the Stars & Stripes newspaper is dated, Sunday, Nov. 24, 1963. Thus, this issue of the paper was published the following day, Sunday.

JUNE EDDY, LIMA, OHIO

I was teaching in Mansfield, Ohio. When we moved to Ohio, it had 2,500 students.

There were two high schools, and the school I was at had just hired a new principal named Kennedy.

The day President Kennedy was shot, I had the girls in the locker room and they were getting dressed after swimming. Suddenly, the principal came on the intercom and said, "Boys and girls, listen carefully. This is your PRINCIPAL, Mr. Kennedy. Our PRESIDENT Kennedy has just been shot. Gather your books and go home." We had no school until after the funeral.

I remember a girl getting on her knees and leading us in prayer.

I called my mother-in-law, who was visiting from Illinois. When I told her what had happened, she didn't believe me. She sassed back to me, "Don't try being so smart."

DUTCH ERICKSON, YANKTON

I was getting my hair cut in the 19th Street Barber Shop on my way back to the high school in South Sioux City,

Neb., when the report came that President Kennedy had been shot. Someone in another chair spouted out that it was "about time that someone shot that (expletive deleted)." I could not believe what I had just heard — not only about the President but what that angry man had said. We held classes during the afternoon but I canceled basketball practice.

I also recalled what JFK had said in his inaugural address: "Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country."

How appropriate at that time.

LORRAINE TAYLOR, YANKTON

In November of 1963 I was a young wife and mother living in Laurel, Neb.

The 22nd of November found me driving to Norfolk, Neb., with the car radio on playing music. Suddenly an announcer broke in to report that our President had been shot and killed!

I believe this incident caused a profound change for our country and its people.

We no longer lived in an age of innocence and trust.

DONNA MICHAEL SCHWARZ

I remember the day very clearly. Went to Fishbeck No. 14 a one-room country school, a father of one of the students called to tell our teacher the president had been shot and to put the radio on. We only had a radio of course.

We had barely turned it on and the announcer came on from national news and stated the President was dead. It so quiet it the room you could here a pin drop except for the soft sobs coming from our teacher. She then told us to pray for the family and our country.

In the next days to come, we all gathered around the TV. On Sunday we were at my aunt's in town waiting to go to church when they were moving Lee Harvey Oswald. I will never forget my dad saying "someone will end up shooting that guy" — and seconds later he was dead at the hands of Jack Ruby.

We were allowed to stay

HISTORY | PAGE 12

A Deal So Good, You'll Think
BLACK FRIDAY is Already Here!

20% Off Annual Memberships When Paid in Full!

Note: To receive 20% Off, annual membership must be paid in full. Offer expires 11/30/13.

Membership Prices With 20% Discount

Community	\$24/month
Senior	\$19/month
Student	\$14/month

Enjoy our beautiful building, two swimming pools, underwater treadmill and swim jets, over 150 group exercise classes each month including yoga, boot camp, Zumba, senior classes, the latest strength and cardio equipment, great staff and much more!

Avera

Sacred Heart Wellness Center

605-668-8357 • 501 Summit Street • Yankton, SD 57078

CONNECTING ALL OF US!

Making it possible for deaf, hard of hearing and speech disabled people to communicate via telephone!

www.sdrelay.com • 866.246.5759