

JFK assassination: On Sunday, collective memory from Central New York

EXTRA **Kennedy Memorial Edition** EXTRA

METROPOLITAN FINAL **THE POST-STANDARD** Weather
 1963 YEAR SYRACUSE, N. Y., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1963 SEVEN CENTS

PRESIDENT KENNEDY SLAIN

Johnson Sworn in as Chief Executive

MAN CHARGED AS ASSASSIN

Kennedy Held Johnson in High Esteem
 Old Party Foes Developed Into Working Team

WASHINGTON (AP) — Lyndon B. Johnson, coming into the presidency on the assassination death Friday of John F. Kennedy, held Kennedy's high regard for Johnson in the days immediately preceding the shooting. Johnson, coming into the presidency on the assassination death Friday of John F. Kennedy, held Kennedy's high regard for Johnson in the days immediately preceding the shooting.

President Lyndon B. Johnson and the late President John F. Kennedy

Gov. Connally Wounded in Dallas Parade

DALLAS (AP) — A gunman assassinated President Kennedy from a truck Friday with a high-powered rifle. Nearly 12 hours later, a 54-year-old man who posed for the hotel photo was charged with his murder.

The charge was filed against Lee Harvey Oswald, 24. Officers said he was the man who hid in the fifth floor of a building, watched and snatched off three neckties that blood the President and wounded Gov. John B. Connally of Texas.

As the state coroner's blood report from the President's face, the face showed no wound on the forehead of his eye, the nose bled from his face and blood in his eye.

He had a nose injury, John F. Kennedy was dead and the United States had a new president, Lyndon B. Johnson.

Wrote the state police had received reports of the fatal shooting of a Dallas police man, Houston Gov. John Connally, who was wounded in the assassination.

Case Against Oswald to Go To Grand Jury

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Kennedy First To Face Threat of A-War

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Kennedy Services Monday in Capital

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Kennedy's funeral will be held Monday in the United States Capitol.

Johnson Sworn in as President

The President Lyndon B. Johnson, flanked by his wife, Lady Bird, and the widow of assassinated President John F. Kennedy, is sworn in as President of the United States by Federal District Judge Sarah T. Hughes of Dallas aboard the presidential plane just as returning to Washington.

Child Leads In Prayers

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The Syracuse Post-Standard: Nov. 23, 1963 (File art)



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It will be 50 years ago, next Friday, that President John F. Kennedy was shot to death in Dallas. Last month, [I wrote a piece](#) asking readers old enough to recall that day to share their reflections about what they were doing at the moment they learned the news.

The result was an outpouring of [emails](#) and letters, all containing vivid recollections. We've collected them into an archive, which we'll give to the [Onondaga Historical Association](#) and share with readers Sunday at syracuse.com. We'll also offer a sampling of those thoughts, in shortened form, in Sunday's Post-Standard.

Among the many notes we received was this one from Jane Sullivan, of Camillus, who recounts how she and her husband John received some of the best and worst news of their lives on the same day:

Following our wedding in July 1963, we lived in Washington, D.C. John was a senior at Georgetown Dental School and I was teaching in Rockville, Md. on that memorable Friday, Nov. 22.

The principal stopped me in the hallway on my way to pick up the class at the music room and told me what had happened in Dallas. She cautioned me to tell the children before dismissal so they wouldn't hear it on the street as most of them were "walkers". Many had parents who worked for the government, NIH, Bethesda Naval Hospital, etc., so this news was especially personal, bringing tears and questions that this young teacher couldn't answer.

Driving back into the District on Wisconsin Ave. that afternoon the mood was somber, everyone listening to the news on car radios. The GU Dental Clinic closed, as did most of the city and John was waiting for me in our little apartment watching TV, disbelieving what he was watching.

The hours and days that followed were full of images that are still so fresh. That first night we joined hundreds of others at the White House quietly mingling, watching for a light on the mansion's second floor. We heard sirens as we reached the west entrance and stopped to see the official limousine, tires screeching, turn into the driveway. Lyndon Johnson, now the President, was clearly visible through the window. In those pre-9/11 days, all that was possible.

On a cold, clear autumn day, we stood for hours with the silent crowds on Constitution Avenue, waiting for the sounds of the muffled drums, the sight of the flag-draped coffin on the horse-drawn caisson and the riderless horse with the backward-facing boots in the stirrups, symbolizing the fallen leader. By evening the long line up the stairs to the Capitol rotunda took John and I past the catafalque where Kennedy's body lay in state. On the way home we stopped at St. Matthew's Cathedral, where the funeral Mass was to take place. Workmen were busily

setting up scaffolding for TV cameras, wires, cables everywhere. We made time for a quick prayer for the President, for the country.

The next morning John remembered a good vantage point in front of the Mayflower Hotel, where we could watch the funeral procession as it left the White House on its way to St. Matthew's. There we stood and watched Kennedy's grieving widow and family as they walked behind the hearse and all of us grieving, with them. Following behind were heads of state, foreign dignitaries and leaders from around the world walking together as a group in no particular order: England's Prince Phillip, Haile Selassie of Ethiopia and towering above the others, French President, Charles DeGaulle.

These are some of our memories of those sad days and the events we witnessed as a young couple. We were caught up in the excitement of this new presidency and what its future might hold for us. That fateful Friday afternoon, amid the constant media coverage John had almost forgotten to tell me through our tears that he had picked up the test results at the hospital lab: it was positive. I was pregnant!

Today, our beautiful daughter, Kerry, born in July 1964 is our (one) joyous memory of November 22, 1963.