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Information

John F. Kennedy

John Fitzgerald

Kennedy (May 29, 1917 – November 22, 1963), often referred to as **Jack Kennedy** or **JFK**, was the 35th President of the United States (1961–1963). The events surrounding his assassination on November 22, 1963 are remembered in vivid detail by nearly all Americans that lived through them, and also by many others. Mourned around the world, presidents, prime ministers, and members of royalty walked behind the casket at his funeral.

The youngest person ever to be elected president of the U.S. (Theodore Roosevelt was the youngest ever to *serve* as president), Kennedy was also the youngest ever to die. As of 2005, he was also the only Catholic ever to be elected president, the last Democratic Party candidate from the North to be elected president, and the last president to die in office. He was also the first person to become president born in the 20th century.

Major events during his presidency included the Cuban Missile Crisis, the building of the Berlin Wall, the Space Race, early events of the Vietnam War, and the Civil Rights Movement. He is rated fairly high in many surveys that rank presidents, but his agenda was still incomplete at his death — with most of his civil

John Fitzgerald Kennedy



Order:	35th President
Vice President:	Lyndon B. Johnson
Term of office:	January 20, 1961 – November 22, 1963
Preceded by:	Dwight D. Eisenhower
Succeeded by:	Lyndon B. Johnson
Date of birth:	May 29, 1917
Place of birth:	Brookline, Massachusetts
Date of death:	November 22, 1963
Place of death:	Dallas, Texas

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rights policies coming to fruition through his successor, [Lyndon B. Johnson](#).

First Lady:

Jacqueline Lee
Bouvier
Kennedy

Political party:

Democratic

[\[edit\]](#)

Early life and education

Kennedy was born in [Brookline, Massachusetts](#), the son of [Joseph P. Kennedy, Sr.](#) and [Rose Fitzgerald](#). As a young man he attended [The Choate School](#), a boarding school in [Wallingford, Connecticut](#). Before enrolling in college, he attended the [London School of Economics](#) for a year, studying political economy. In the fall of 1935, he enrolled in [Princeton University](#), but was forced to leave during [Christmas](#) break after contracting [jaundice](#). The next fall, he began attending [Harvard University](#). Kennedy traveled to [Europe](#) twice during his years at Harvard, visiting the [United Kingdom](#), while his father was serving as ambassador to that country. In 1937, Kennedy was erroneously prescribed steroids to control his colitis, which only heightened his medical problems causing him to develop [osteoporosis](#) of the lower lumbar spine [\[1\]](#).

In 1938, Kennedy wrote his honors thesis on the British portion of the [Munich Agreement](#). He was an average student at Harvard, never earning an A, but mostly B's and C's, with a single D in a sophomore history course. He graduated *cum laude* from Harvard with a degree in international affairs in [June 1940](#). His thesis, entitled *Why England Slept*, was published in 1940 and, with the aid of his affluent and powerful father, it became a best-seller.

[\[edit\]](#)

Military service

In the spring of 1941, Kennedy volunteered for the [U.S. Army](#), but was rejected, mainly because of his troublesome back. However, the [U.S. Navy](#) accepted him in [September](#) of that year. He participated in various commands in the [Pacific Theater](#) and earned the rank of [lieutenant](#), commanding a [patrol torpedo boat](#) or *PT boat*.

On [August 2, 1943](#), Kennedy's boat, the *PT-109*, was taking part in a night-time military raid near [New Georgia](#) (near the [Solomon Islands](#)) when it was rammed by a [Japanese destroyer](#). Kennedy was thrown across the deck, injuring his already troubled back. Still, Kennedy somehow towed a wounded man three miles through the ocean, arriving on an island where his crew was subsequently rescued. Kennedy said that he blacked out for periods of time during the ordeal. For these actions, Kennedy received the [Navy and Marine Corps Medal](#) under the following citation



Jack on his navy patrol boat, *PT 109*.

"For heroism the rescue of 3 men following the ramming and sinking of his motor torpedo boat while attempting a torpedo attack on a Japanese destroyer in the Solomon Islands area on the night of Aug 1-2, 1943. Lt. KENNEDY, Capt. of the boat, directed the rescue of the crew and personally rescued 3 men, one of whom was seriously injured. During the following 6 days, he succeeded in getting his crew ashore, and after swimming many hours attempting to secure aid and food, finally effected the

rescue of the men. His courage, endurance and excellent leadership contributed to the saving of several lives and was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service."

Kennedy's other decorations of the Second World War include the [Purple Heart](#), [Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal](#), and the [World War II Victory Medal](#). He was honorably discharged in early 1945, just a few months before the Japanese surrendered.

In [May 2002](#) a [National Geographic](#) expedition found what is believed to be the wreckage of the PT-109 in the Solomon Islands [\[2\]](#).

Early political career

[\[edit\]](#)

After World War II, Kennedy entered politics (partly to fill the void of his popular brother, [Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr.](#), on whom his family had pinned many of their hopes but who was killed in the war). In 1946, [Representative James Michael Curley](#) vacated his seat in an overwhelmingly Democratic district to become mayor of [Boston](#) and Kennedy ran for that seat, beating his Republican opponent by a large margin. He was reelected two times, but had a mixed voting record, often diverging from President [Harry S. Truman](#) and the rest of the Democratic Party.

Persistent rumors have suggested that Kennedy married Durie Malcolm briefly in early 1947. Their romance was mentioned in the [January 20, 1947](#) issue of *The New York World-Telegram*, but no conclusive proof of a marriage has been found. Beyond a flat denial, Durie declined to discuss the alleged marriage. [Seymour Hersh's](#) *The Dark Side of Camelot* devotes a chapter to the alleged marriage; he interviewed several of Kennedy's friends who reported the marriage as fact, and additionally noted that Joseph P. Kennedy managed to cover-up the fling, fearing that his son's marriage to a divorcee would harm his nascent political career. The marriage rumors were little-known until 1961, when rumors began to circulate in Washington, D.C. [\[3\]](#)

In 1952, Kennedy ran for the [Senate](#) with the slogan "Kennedy will do more for Massachusetts." In an upset victory, he defeated Republican incumbent [Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr.](#) by a margin of about 70,000 votes.

Kennedy adroitly dodged criticizing fellow Senator [Joseph McCarthy's](#) controversial campaign to root out Communists and Soviet spies in the U.S. government, because of McCarthy's popularity in Massachusetts. McCarthy was a friend of Kennedy, Kennedy's father, dated the Kennedy sisters, and younger brother [Robert F. Kennedy](#) briefly worked for McCarthy. Although Kennedy was ill during the 65–22 vote to censure McCarthy, he was criticized by McCarthy opponents such as [Eleanor Roosevelt](#) who later said of the episode "he should have displayed less profile, and more courage".

Kennedy married [Jacqueline Bouvier](#) on [September 12, 1953](#). He underwent several spinal operations in the two following years, nearly dying (receiving the Catholic religion's "[last rites](#)" four times during his life), and was often absent from the Senate. During this period, he published *Profiles in Courage*, highlighting eight instances in which



A young Senator Kennedy ↗ in 1953.

U.S. Senators risked their careers by standing by their personal beliefs. The book was awarded the 1957 [Pulitzer Prize](#) for Biography.

In 1956, Kennedy campaigned for the [Vice Presidential](#) nomination at the Democratic National Convention, but convention delegates selected [Tennessee](#) senator [Estes Kefauver](#) instead. However, Kennedy's efforts helped bolster the young Senator's reputation within the party.

An example of Kennedy's political suppleness, prior to the 1960 campaign, was his handling of the [Civil Rights Act of 1957](#). He voted for final passage, while earlier voting for the "jury trial amendment", which rendered the Act toothless. He was able to say to both sides that he supported them.

1960 Presidential election

[[edit](#)]

In 1960, Kennedy declared his intent to run for [President of the United States](#). In the Democratic [primary election](#), he faced challenges from Senator [Hubert H. Humphrey](#) of [Minnesota](#), Senator [Lyndon B. Johnson](#) of [Texas](#), and [Adlai Stevenson](#), the Democratic nominee in 1952 and 1956 who was not officially running but was a favorite write-in candidate. Kennedy won key primaries like [Wisconsin](#) and [West Virginia](#) and landed the nomination at the Democratic National Convention in 1960.



Kennedy shakes 
Richard Nixon's hand
before a televised debate.

On [July 13, 1960](#) the Democratic Party nominated Kennedy as its candidate for president. Kennedy asked Johnson to be his Vice Presidential candidate, despite clashes between the two during the primary elections. Somewhat to Kennedy's staff's dismay, Johnson accepted. Some theorists have speculated that Johnson had blackmailed Kennedy by threatening to expose Kennedy's physical ailments and/or affairs, but LBJ could also deliver votes from the South. Another possibility is that Kennedy wanted to remove Johnson from the [Senate Majority Leader](#) position so that [United States Senate Majority Whip Mike Mansfield](#) would assume the leadership, as Kennedy considered Mansfield easier to work with than Johnson.

Issues in the election included how to deal with the nation's poor, the economy, JFK's Catholicism, Cuba, and whether or not both the Soviet space and missile programs had surpassed those of the USA.

In September and October, Kennedy debated Republican candidate Vice President [Richard Nixon](#) in the first ever televised [presidential debates](#). During the debates, Nixon looked tense, sweaty, and unshaven contrasted to Kennedy's composure and handsomeness, leading many to deem Kennedy the winner, although historians consider the two evenly matched as orators. Interestingly, many who listened on radio thought Nixon more impressive in the debate.^[4] The debates are considered a political landmark: the point at which the medium of [television](#) played an important role in politics and looking presentable on camera became one of the important considerations for presidential and other political candidates.

In the general [election](#) on [November 8 1960](#), Kennedy beat Nixon in a very close race. There were serious allegations that vote fraud in

Texas and Illinois had cost Nixon the presidency[5]. Especially troubling were the unusually huge margins in [Richard Daley's](#) Chicago — which were announced after the rest of the vote in Illinois. The only change after the official recount was a win for Kennedy in Hawaii.

Presidency

[[edit](#)]

John F. Kennedy was sworn in as the 35th [President](#) on [January 20, 1961](#). In his inaugural address he spoke of the need for all Americans to be active citizens. "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country", he said. He also asked the nations of the world to join together to fight what he called the "common enemies of man... tyranny, poverty, disease, and war itself".



Kennedy gives his memorable inauguration address [↗](#)

Foreign policies

[[edit](#)]

On [April 17, 1961](#), the Kennedy administration implemented a modified version of Kennedy predecessor [Dwight D. Eisenhower's](#) plan to depose [Fidel Castro](#), the [communist](#) leader of [Cuba](#). With support from the [CIA](#), in what is known as the [Bay of Pigs Invasion](#), 1,500 Cuban exiles returned to the island to depose Castro, but the [CIA](#) had overestimated popular resistance to Castro and the exiles did not rally the Cuban people as expected. By April 19, Castro's government had killed or captured most of the exiles and Kennedy was forced to negotiate for the release of 1,189 of them. After 20 months, Cuba released the exiles in exchange for \$53 million in food and medicine. The incident was a major embarrassment for Kennedy, but he took full responsibility for the debacle (See [Bay of Pigs Invasion](#) for more information).

On [August 13, 1961](#), the East German government began construction of the [Berlin Wall](#) separating East Berlin from the Western sector of the city, due to the American military presence in West Berlin. Some claimed this action was in violation of the "Four Powers" agreements. Kennedy initiated no action to have it dismantled, and did little to reverse or halt the eventual extension of this barrier to a length of 155 km.

The [Cuban Missile Crisis](#) began on [October 14, 1962](#) when American U-2 spy planes took photographs of the construction site of a [Soviet](#) nuclear missile site in Cuba. Kennedy faced a dire dilemma: if the U.S. attacked the sites it would likely have led to [nuclear war](#) with [Russia](#). If the U.S. did nothing, it would endure the perpetual threat of tactical nuclear weapons within its region, in such close proximity, that if launched pre-emptively, the U.S. may have been unable to retaliate. Another fear was that the U.S. would appear to the world as weak. Many military officials and cabinet members pressed for an air assault on the missile sites but Kennedy ordered a naval [blockade](#) and began negotiations with the Russians. A week later, he and Soviet Premier [Nikita Khrushchev](#) reached an agreement. Khrushchev agreed to remove the missiles if the U.S. would publicly agree never to invade Cuba, and also secretly agree to remove U.S. missiles from [Turkey](#) within six months. Following this incident, which brought the world closer to nuclear war than at any point before or since, Kennedy was

more cautious in confronting the Soviet Union.

Arguing that "those who make peaceful revolution impossible, make violent revolution inevitable", Kennedy sought to contain communism in [Latin America](#), by establishing the [Alliance for Progress](#), which sent aid to troubled countries in the region and sought greater [human rights](#) standards in the region.

Another example of Kennedy's belief in the ability of nonmilitary power to improve the world was the creation of the [Peace Corps](#), one of his first acts as president. Through this program, which still exists today, Americans volunteered to help underdeveloped nations in areas such as education, farming, health care, and construction.

Kennedy also used limited military action to contain the spread of communism. Determined to stand firm against the spread of communism, Kennedy continued the previous administration's policy of political, economic, and military support for the unstable [South Vietnamese](#) government, which included sending military advisers and U.S. special forces to the area. U.S. involvement in the area continually escalated until regular U.S. forces were directly fighting the [Vietnam War](#) in the next administration.

On [June 26, 1963](#), Kennedy visited [West Berlin](#) and gave a public speech criticizing communism. While Kennedy was speaking, on the other side of the wall were the people of [East Berlin](#) who were applauding Kennedy showing their distaste in Soviet control. Kennedy used the construction of the [Berlin Wall](#) as an example of the failures of communism - "Freedom has many difficulties and democracy is not perfect, but we have never had to put a wall up to keep our people in." The speech is known for its famous phrase [Ich bin ein Berliner](#) ("I am a Berliner").

Troubled by the long-term dangers of radioactive contamination and nuclear weapons proliferation, Kennedy also pushed for the adoption of a Limited or [Partial Test Ban Treaty](#), which prohibited atomic testing on the ground, in the atmosphere, or underwater, but does not prohibit testing underground. The United States, the United Kingdom and the Soviet Union were the initial signatories to the Treaty. Kennedy signed the Treaty into law in 1963, and believed it to be one of the greatest accomplishments of his administration.

On the occasion of his visit to Ireland in 1963, President John F. Kennedy joined with Irish President Eamonn de Valera to form The American Irish Foundation. The mission of this organization was to foster connections between Americans of Irish descent and the country of their ancestry. see The Ireland Funds

Domestic policies

[\[edit\]](#)



JFK in the [Oval Office](#) with various civil rights activists including [Martin Luther King Jr](#)

Kennedy used the term [New Frontier](#) as a label for his domestic program. It ambitiously promised federal funding for education, medical care for the elderly, and government intervention to halt the recession. Kennedy also promised an end to racial discrimination.

The turbulent end of state-sanctioned racial discrimination was one of the most pressing domestic issues of

Kennedy's era. The [U.S. Supreme Court](#) had ruled in [1954](#) that [racial](#)

[segregation](#) in public schools would no longer be permitted. However, there were many schools, especially in southern states, that did not obey this decision. There also remained the practice of segregation on buses, in restaurants, movie theaters, and other public places.

Thousands of Americans of all races and backgrounds joined together to protest this discrimination. Kennedy supported racial integration and civil rights, and called the jailed Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s wife during the 1960 campaign, which drew much black support to his candidacy. However, as president, Kennedy initially believed the grassroots movement for civil rights would only anger many Southern whites and make it even more difficult to pass civil rights laws through Congress, which was dominated by Southern Democrats, and he distanced himself from it. As a result, many civil rights leaders viewed President Kennedy as unsupportive of their efforts, and some accuse it of being part of a re-election strategy.

President Kennedy had to step in in June 1963, when the Governor of Alabama, [George Wallace](#), blocked the doorway to University of Alabama to stop two Black students, Vivian Malone and James Hood, from enrolling. George Wallace moved aside after being confronted by federal marshalls, Deputy Attorney General [Nicholas Katzenbach](#), and the Alabama [National Guard](#).

Also on the domestic front, in 1963 Kennedy proposed a tax reform that included income tax cuts, but this was not passed by the Congress until after his death in 1964. It is one of the largest tax cuts in modern U.S. history, surpassing the [Reagan](#) tax cut of 1981.

Support of space programs

[[edit](#)]

Kennedy was eager for the United States to lead the way in the space race. The Soviet Union was ahead of the United States in its knowledge of [space exploration](#) and Kennedy was determined that the U.S. could catch up. He said, "No nation which expects to be the leader of other nations can expect to stay behind in this race for space" and "We choose to go to the [Moon](#) and to do the other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard". Kennedy asked Congress to approve more than twenty two billion dollars for [Project Apollo](#), which had the goal of landing an American man on the Moon before the end of the decade. In 1969, six years after Kennedy's death, this goal was finally realized when [Neil Armstrong](#) and [Buzz Aldrin](#) became the first humans to land on the Moon.



JFK looks at the space craft [Friendship 7](#), the spacecraft that made three earth orbits, piloted by astronaut [John Glenn](#). [↗](#)

Cabinet

[[edit](#)]

OFFICE	NAME	TERM
President	John F. Kennedy	1961–1963
Vice President	Lyndon B. Johnson	1961–1963
State	Dean Rusk	1961–1963
Treasury	C. Douglas Dillon	1961–1963
Defense	Robert S. McNamara	1961–1963

Justice	Robert F. Kennedy	1961–1963
Postmaster General	J. Edward Day	1961–1963
	John A. Gronouski	1963
Interior	Stewart L. Udall	1961–1963
Agriculture	Orville L. Freeman	1961–1963
Commerce	Luther H. Hodges	1961–1963
Labor	Arthur J. Goldberg	1961–1962
	W. Willard Wirtz	1962–1963
HEW	Abraham A. Ribicoff	1961–1962
	Anthony J. Celebrezze	1962–1963

Supreme Court appointments

[edit]

Kennedy appointed the following Justices to the [Supreme Court of the United States](#):

- [Byron Raymond White](#) - 1962
- [Arthur Joseph Goldberg](#) - 1962

Image, social life and family

[edit]

See also: [Kennedy political family](#)

Both Kennedy and his wife "Jackie" were very young when compared to earlier presidents and first ladies, and were both extraordinarily popular in ways more common to pop singers and movie stars than politicians, influencing fashion trends and becoming the subjects of numerous photo spreads in popular magazines.

The Kennedys brought a new life and vigor to the atmosphere of the [White House](#). They believed that the White House should be a place to celebrate American history, culture, and achievement and invited artists, writers, scientists, poets, musicians, actors, Nobel Prize winners and athletes to visit. [Jacqueline Kennedy](#) also gathered new [art](#) and [furniture](#) and eventually restored all the rooms in the White House.

The White House also seemed like a more fun, youthful place, because of the Kennedys' two young children, [Caroline](#) and [John Jr.](#) (who came to be known in the popular press, erroneously, as "John-John"). Outside the White House Lawn, the Kennedys established a pre-school, swimming pool, and tree house.

Behind the glamorous facade, the Kennedys also suffered many personal tragedies, most notably the death of their newborn son [Patrick Bouvier Kennedy](#) in [August 1963](#).

Information revealed after John F. Kennedy's death leaves no doubt that he had many extramarital affairs while in office, including liaisons in the [White House](#) with some female staff and visitors. In his era, though, such issues were not considered fit for publication, and in Kennedy's case, they were never publicly discussed during his life, even though there were some public clues of an involvement with [Marilyn](#)



Kennedy's Cabinet meets during the Cuban Missile Crisis ↗



The Kennedy brothers: John, Robert, and Edward (Ted) ↗

[Monroe](#), such as the manner in which she sang *Happy Birthday Mr. President* at his televised birthday party in May, 1962. In the years after his death, many liaisons were revealed, including one with Judith Campbell Exner , who was simultaneously involved with Chicago mob boss Sam Giancana.

The "charisma" Kennedy and his family projected posthumously led to the figurative designation of "Camelot" for his administration.

Assassination and aftermath

[edit]

Main article: [John F. Kennedy assassination](#)

President Kennedy was assassinated in [Dallas, Texas](#), on Friday, [November 22, 1963](#) at 12:30 pm [CST](#) while on a political trip through Texas.

[Lee Harvey Oswald](#), arrested in a movie theater at 1:50 pm was charged at 7:00 pm for killing a Dallas policeman by "murder with malice", and also charged at 11:30 pm for the "murder" of the president (there being no charge of "assassination" of a president at that time). Oswald was himself fatally shot less than two days

later in the basement of the Dallas police station by [Jack Ruby](#), a Dallas nightclub owner with ties to the police, the [mafia](#) and [organized crime](#), before Oswald could receive a court trial. Five days after Oswald was killed, President [Lyndon B. Johnson](#) created the [Warren Commission](#), chaired by Chief Justice Earl Warren, to investigate the assassination. See *[John F. Kennedy assassination](#)* for further detailed facts and considerations surrounding President Kennedy's assassination.

Kennedy's life and the subsequent [conspiracy theories](#) surrounding his death have been the topic for many films, including Mark Lane's 1966 *Rush to Judgment*, ABC TV's 1983 mini series *Kennedy*, Nigel Turner's 1988, 1991, 1995, and 2003's continuing documentary *The Men Who Killed Kennedy*, [Oliver Stone's 1991 JFK](#), the 1993 *JFK: Reckless Youth* (which looked at Kennedy's early years), and the 2000 *Thirteen Days*.



President Kennedy, Jackie, and Gov. [John Connally](#) in the Presidential limousine shortly before the assassination.



The grave of President Kennedy at [Arlington National Cemetery](#).

In November 2002 long-secret medical records were made public, revealing Kennedy's physical ailments were more severe than previously thought. He was in constant pain from fractured vertebrae despite multiple medications, in addition to suffering from severe digestive problems and [Addison's disease](#). Kennedy received

multiple injections of [procaine](#) before public events in order to appear healthy. Kennedy's spine was subject to [osteoporosis](#) triggered by injections of [corticosteroids](#); this led to his using a brace to help support the crumbling [vertebrae](#) of his lower back. He was wearing such a brace (along with ace bandages wrapped around both upper thighs intertwined with his lower back) on the day of his assassination. After being hit for the first time, his body might otherwise have

slumped downward into a position within the vehicle which would have protected him from further shots, however the brace may have held his body upright making his head an easier target.

On [March 14, 1967](#) Kennedy's body was moved to a permanent burial place and memorial at [Arlington National Cemetery](#).

As an honorary commemoration, Kennedy's portrait now appears on the [United States half dollar coin](#). New York Idlewild International Airport was renamed [John F. Kennedy International Airport](#) on [December 24, 1963](#) to honor his memory.

Kennedy, the youngest U.S. President ever elected, also died younger than any other president – at 46 years and 177 days. Kennedy is the only president people honor on the day of his death because it is burned in the memory of many all around the world old enough to remember. U.N. Ambassador [Adlai Stevenson](#) said of the assassination that "all of us...will bear the grief of his death until the day of ours."

Criticism

[\[edit\]](#)

JFK is among the most popular former Presidents of the United States; however, a number of critics argue that his reputation is largely undeserved. While he was young and charismatic, he had little chance to achieve much during his presidency. The [Civil Rights Act](#) which he sent to Congress in 1963 was, at least in part, conceived by his brother and Attorney-General Robert F. Kennedy, and largely implemented by his successor, Lyndon Johnson, in 1964.

Kennedy's family was connected to the Labor Union movement, which was long connected to organized crime. ABC News aired a story in 1997 called *Dangerous World: The Kennedy Years*, narrated by Peter Jennings, that included electronically-altered interviews with people who said JFK's father, Joseph Kennedy, arranged for the Mafia to stuff the ballot boxes in Chicago, Kansas City, and Las Vegas — but other research has concluded that whatever fraud may have existed was not enough to change the outcome of the election. Noteworthy in this regard, Robert Kennedy's attempts to prosecute organized crime figures were among the most resolute to that date.

Kennedy's personal life has also attracted the ire of critics, some of whom argue that lapses in judgment in his personal life impacted his professional life. Many of these criticism stem from revelations about the extent to which the Kennedy family went to hide his serious, potentially life-threatening health issues from the voting public, his heavy medication regimen, his long history of extra-marital dalliances, and alleged, circuitous links to organized crime figures. Seymour Hersh's *Dark Side of Camelot* (1998) presents such a critical argument. Robert Dallek's *An Unfinished Life* (2003) is a more balanced biography, but contains much detail on JFK's health issues.

Another of Kennedy's critics is [Noam Chomsky](#), whose book *Rethinking Camelot: JFK, the Vietnam War, and US Political Culture* (1993) presents an image of the Kennedy administration opposite to the one that lingers in mainstream memory. The book is a criticism of policy rather than his personal life, and explores information not usually presented about the 35th president.

Trivia

[\[edit\]](#)

- Because of his early death at age forty-six, he was outlived by

three of his predecessors, [Herbert Hoover](#) (1874-1964), [Dwight D. Eisenhower](#) (1890-1969) and [Harry S. Truman](#) (1884-1972), and four of his successors who were born before him, [Lyndon B. Johnson](#) (1908-1973), [Richard Nixon](#) (1913-1994), [Gerald Ford](#) (1913-) and [Ronald Reagan](#) (1911-2004).

- After his assassination, admirers began documenting similarities between Kennedy and Abraham Lincoln: seven letters in last name, Vice Presidents named Johnson, assassinated by a man who used all three names - who was in turn killed before trial. This led to the discovery that every President since Lincoln, elected in a year ending in 0 (Garfield 1880, McKinley 1900, Harding 1920, Roosevelt 1940) had died in office. When Ronald Reagan was elected in 1980, because of his advanced age, this supposed curse gained some new notoriety. In spite of an assassination attempt, age, and health issues, President Reagan broke the curse, living fifteen years after his Presidency ended and even becoming the longest lived President.
- [Aldous Huxley](#) and [C.S. Lewis](#) both died on the same day as him. But because of the assassination, their deaths received little media attention.
- John F. Kennedy was a member of the [Knights of Columbus](#).

See also

[[edit](#)]

- [John F. Kennedy assassination](#)
- [Kennedy Compound](#)
- [John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts](#)
- [John Fitzgerald Kennedy Library in Boston, Massachusetts](#)
- [Kennedy family](#)
- [U.S. presidential election, 1960](#)
- [History of the United States \(1945–1964\)](#)
- [Peace Corps](#)
- [John F. Kennedy Eternal Flame](#)
- [John F. Kennedy Memorial at Runnymede, England](#)
- [Kennedy Memorial Trust](#)
- [Whiz Kids](#)
- [Evelyn Lincoln](#), personal secretary to the President
- [Kennedy Doctrine](#)
- [Lincoln/Kennedy Coincidences](#)

External links

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- [Biography of John F. Kennedy](#)
- [Inaugural Address](#)
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- [Assassination of President Kennedy Encyclopaedia](#)
- [First State of the Union Address of JFK](#)
- [Second State of the Union Address of JFK](#)
- [Third State of the Union Address of JFK](#)
- [American University Address](#)
- [American Presidents: Life Portraits](#)
- [Radio Ceylon mourns the death of President John F.Kennedy](#)

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<p>Preceded by: James Michael Curley</p>	<p>U.S. Congressman for the 11th District of Massachusetts 1947-1953</p>	<p>Succeeded by: Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr.</p>
<p>Preceded by: Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr.</p>	<p>U.S. Senator from Massachusetts 1953-1960</p>	<p>Succeeded by: Benjamin A. Smith</p>
<p>Preceded by: Adlai Stevenson</p>	<p>Democratic Party Presidential candidate 1960 (won)</p>	<p>Succeeded by: Lyndon B. Johnson</p>
		<p>Succeeded by: Lyndon B. Johnson Template:End box</p> <div data-bbox="743 1312 1235 2222" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 406px; margin-top: 10px;"></div>

Preceded
by:
**Dwight D.
Eisenhower**

**President of
the United
States**
January 20,
1961 –
November 22,
1963

**Presidents
of the
United
States of
America**



Washington |
J. Adams |
Jefferson |
Madison |
Monroe |
J.Q. Adams |
Jackson |
Van Buren |
W.H. Harrison
| Tyler | Polk |
Taylor |
Fillmore |
Pierce |
Buchanan |
Lincoln |
A. Johnson |
Grant | Hayes
|
Garfield |
Arthur |
Cleveland |
B. Harrison |
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L.B. Johnson |
Nixon | Ford |
Carter |
Reagan |
G.H.W. Bush |
Clinton |
G.W. Bush

**Vice
Presidents of
the United
States of
America**

Adams | Jefferson
| Burr | Clinton |
Gerry | Tompkins |
Calhoun | Van
Buren | R.
Johnson | Tyler |
Dallas | Fillmore |
King |
Breckinridge |
Hamlin | A.
Johnson | Colfax |
Wilson | Wheeler |
Arthur | Hendricks
| Morton |
Stevenson |
Hobart | Roosevelt
| Fairbanks |
Sherman |
Marshall |
Coolidge | Dawes |
Curtis | Garner |
Wallace | Truman |
Barkley | Nixon | L.
Johnson |
Humphrey |
Agnew | Ford |
Rockefeller |
Mondale | Bush |
Quayle | Gore |
Cheney



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Early Life and Education. Net Worth & Current Influence. Success Story. Most Influential Quotes. As a kid Steve Ells would watch Julia Child and learn cooking tips from his mom. The original plan wasn't to run a burrito shop for the rest of his life. In fact, in the beginning it seemed like Steve wanted as little to do with Chipotle as possible. The first restaurant, opened in the summer of 1993, was sparse in decor (everything having been bought from a local hardware store) and there was no signage or explanation of what the restaurant served. Steve cut costs wherever possible and ensured that the business was so simple that he could simply hire someone to run it – he was looking at his burrito shop as a business that could generate large returns quickly.

John F Kennedy was the 35th President of the United States. This biography offers detailed information about his childhood, life, works, achievements & timeline. Quick Facts. A quote by Kennedy, "Do not pray for easy lives. Pray to be stronger men", perfectly summarizes his philosophy of life. A man with a futuristic vision, John Fitzgerald Kennedy served as the 35th President of the United States. Born in an elite, politically involved Catholic family of Boston, Kennedy was elected as President at the age of 43. John Fitzgerald Kennedy (29 May 1917 – 22 November 1963), often referred to by his initials JFK and Jack, was the 35th President of the United States (1961–1963) and a United States Senator from Massachusetts (1953–1960). He is the older brother of Robert F. Kennedy and Ted Kennedy, and the first husband of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis. War will exist until that distant day when the conscientious objector enjoys the same reputation and prestige that the warrior does today.