

Jackie Kennedy Onassis buried beside JFK



ARLINGTON, Va. (AP) — Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis was buried with simple grace Monday beside her slain husband's eternal flame, overlooking the capital she once enchanted, mourned by a country that knew her as part of a time now gone.

Under brilliant sun on a summerlike day, at the place where she had won a world's admiration for her dignity at a time of grieving, the widow of John F. Kennedy and Aristotle Onassis was laid to rest. Her daughter and her son, the White House children long-since grown, knelt before the coffin and kissed it.

"God gave her very great gifts and imposed upon her great burdens," said President Clinton. "She bore them all with dignity and grace and uncommon common sense."

From Washington Cathedral in the distance, a bell tolled 64 times, once for each year of her life.

"We say goodbye to Jackie," Clinton said. "May the flame she lit so long ago burn ever brighter here and always brighter in our hearts."

It had been more than 10,000 days since Jacqueline Kennedy had stood at this place in a widow's black veil, carrying the nation's grief, accepting the folded coffin flag of a martyred president killed as she sat beside him in an open limousine.

Now she joined him, a victim of cancer. She had been

"a lesson to the world," her brother-in-law, Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, said at her funeral in New York, "on how to do things right, how to be a mother, how to appreciate history, how to be courageous."

In keeping with the privacy she cherished in life, the burial ceremony was reserved, lasting only 11 minutes. It brought together about 100 members of the Kennedy, Auchincloss and Radziwill families, including Lee Radziwill Ross, Mrs. Onassis' sister.

The people at the service were all family except for a few, including Providencia Paredes, who was Jackie's personal maid in the White House; her son, Gustavo, who grew up together with John and is still a close friend; and Mrs. Kennedy's companion for the last 12 years or so, Maurice Tempelman.

The Rev. Philip Hannan presided over the burial service, just as he had for Mrs. Kennedy's husband. He was auxiliary bishop of Washington then; he is the retired archbishop of New Orleans now.

He prayed for consolation for those "who have suffered the loss of her mortal presence."

The service was carried by television to a world that knew Mrs. Kennedy as perhaps the world's most famous woman, unquestionably among its most admired. She died Thursday, before her admirers could grasp how ill she was.

Buried alongside are the couple's first child, an unnamed daughter stillborn in 1956, and an infant son,

Patrick, who died three days after his birth in August 1963. A few paces away lie the remains of Robert F. Kennedy, slain in 1968.

The funeral in New York, a city Mrs. Kennedy loved, was private, in St. Ignatius Loyola Church, where Jacqueline Bouvier had been baptized. It was attended by the Kennedy clan — aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews and in-laws. Among the mourners were first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and former first lady Lady Bird Johnson.

John Kennedy Jr., 33, read from Isaiah. Caroline Kennedy Schlossberg, 36, read from Edna St. Vincent Millay's "Memory of Cape Cod."

In a steady voice, John delivered a eulogy, paying tribute to his mother's "love of words, bonds of home and family and her spirit of adventure."

Said his uncle, Senator Kennedy: "She graced our history. And for those of us who knew and loved her, she graced our lives."

Hundreds of people gathered in the streets, representative of people everywhere who treasured memories of her as an enchanting young wife in the White House; as a dignified widow marching behind her husband's horse-drawn funeral caisson; as a single mother, raising her children in privacy; as the wife of billionaire Onassis, a marriage that shocked the tabloid press; and then, as Onassis' widow, as editor of books, as a lover of art and a crusader to save distinctive architecture.

Groups charge video inequality

WASHINGTON (AP) — African Americans, Hispanics and the poor are being excluded from telephone companies' plans to create "video dialtone" networks, civil rights and consumer groups charged Monday.

The groups said their review of initial applications for the new service that are pending before the Federal Communications Commission uncovered a pattern of "electronic redlining" that was based on income and race.

Such practices violate a 1934 communications law, they said.

"These video dialtone networks could become the primary communications system for millions of Americans," said Jeffrey Chester, executive director of the Center for Media Education. "They must be made available in an equitable and nondiscriminatory manner."

The FCC voted in July 1992 to allow local telephone companies to create the networks, which would grant users access to a number of video options through their telephones.

Customers eventually will be able to link their phones and televisions so they can participate in meetings, shop at their favorite stores, and choose from hundreds of movies and TV programs at their convenience.

In petitions filed Monday with the FCC, the groups urged the regulatory agency to clarify its rules against "redlining" and increase the public's role in helping to develop the information networks.

An FCC official said the group's charges would be reviewed.

"We remain very much committed to the notion that Americans should not be denied service based upon their economic situation or where they live,"

said Donna Lampert, a senior policy adviser.

She declined to comment on the specific allegations, but said the panel can require a certain service if it believes the public will benefit.

"What we're talking about is technology that's just rolling out," said Alan Mauk, spokesman for the U.S. Television Association, "so consequently they're looking for market areas that would give them the best feedback."

Mauk said he hadn't seen the petitions, and declined further comment.

Mark Cooper, research director for the Consumer Federation of America, said he compared census information to maps and other documents local phone companies submitted to the FCC along with their applications.

The commission has received more than 20 applications and five of them have been approved on an experimental basis, Lampert said.

Cooper said his analysis of at least two areas for each of the four regional Bell companies revealed that entire counties were bypassed in some cases, in favor of more affluent neighboring counties.

For example, Bell Atlantic chose wealthier suburbs in northern Virginia and Montgomery County, Maryland, over the District of Columbia and Prince George's County, Maryland — both of which have large minority populations.

In some cities, like Chicago and Denver, minorities and low-income people are the predominant residents of areas where the companies do not plan to lay the initial groundwork for video dialtone facilities, Cooper said.

The groups said the applications, if approved as submitted, would widen the economic, social and other disparities between the rich and poor.

American diplomats deal with North Korea

WASHINGTON (AP) — South Korea's special envoy for nuclear issues called Monday at the State Department as the Clinton administration began preparing for high-level talks with North Korea over its nuclear program.

Kim Sam-hoon met with Robert Gallucci, an assistant secretary of state who helps set the administration's Korea policy, to coordinate strategy for dealing with North Korea. The meeting was not announced.

They then went to New York for meetings there on Tuesday with Japanese Foreign Ministry officials.

There, American diplomats began unannounced preliminary talks with North Korean officials at the United Nations.

The purpose is to coordinate U.S. policy with South Korea and Japan to entice the isolated Pyongyang government with diplomatic recognition while pressing for full disclosure of its nuclear intentions.

The State Department spokesman, Michael McCurry, said the United States wants to make sure the International Atomic Energy Agency gets its hands on the "historic record" of activities at North Korean nuclear sites to see if spent fuel was diverted to make nuclear weapons.

The United States is insisting on IAEA oversight of any discharge of fuel from an experimental reactor. "If discharge of fuel from the reactor continues without any of the IAEA's proposed steps in place, then North Korea would inevitably undermine the basis for our dialogue and we'd have no choice but to return the matter to the United Nations Security Council," McCurry said.

Senior U.S. national security officials met Friday at the White House and decided high-level talks with North Korea, broken off last July, should be resumed because of progress on access to the nuclear sites.

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