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The Portland Observer

September 2, 2009

The Life and Times

--Feb. 22, 1932: born youngest of nine children.

--1951: Left Harvard University after caught cheating on Spanish exam, eventually allowed to rejoin in 1953.

-- June 1954: Graduates from Harvard, enrolls at the University of Virginia Law School. (He graduated in 1959.)

-- 1958: Managed his first campaign-John F. Kennedy's Senate reelection and on Nov. 29, married Virginia Joan Bennett.

-- Nov. 8, 1960: Brother JFK elected president.



Joseph and Rose Kennedy with eight of their children on July 8, 1934, in Massachusetts. Seated in the front row are Patricia, Rose and Joseph Kennedy with baby Edward, Kathleen, Eunice and Rosemary. John, Jeanne and Robert are behind.



A young Ted Kennedy attends the changing of the guard at Buckingham Palace in London with his sister, Jean, on April 11, 1938. Their father Joseph Kennedy, the American ambassador to Great Britain at the time, was paying a call on the king.

-- 1962: Runs for and wins brother's U.S. Senate seat. In March, he resigned as assistant district attorney in Suffolk County, Mass.., and announced candidacy JFK's seat when he became old enough. (Elected Nov. 6, 1962.)



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Cardinal Francis Spellman of New York celebrates the Nuptial High Mass as Edward Moore Kennedy weds Joan Bennett at St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church in Bronxville, N.Y., on Nov. 29, 1958.

-- Nov. 22, 1963: JFK assassinated

-- June 19, 1964: Breaks his back in a plane crash and was saved by Sen. Birch Bayh, father of current U.S. Sen. Evan Bayh.

-- Nov. 3, 1964: Brother Robert F. Kennedy elected as U.S. Senate from New York. Ted Kennedy won his first full Senate term.

-- 1968: In March, RFK announces candidacy for the presidency. In June, RFK is shot and dies next day after winning the Californiaprimary.



Edward Kennedy, right, and his brothers John and Robert, are seen in Hyannis Port, Mass., during John F. Kennedy's presidential campaign on July 20, 1960.



A young Edward "Ted" Kennedy at New York International Airport.

- 1969: Chappaquiddick. Drives his Oldsmobile off a bridge and his female passenger, Mary Jo Kopechne, drowns. Kennedy escapes. Pleads guilty to the misdeameanor charge of leaving the scene of an accident. He receives a two-month suspended sentence and a year's probation.

-- Nov. 3, 1970: Won re-election but lost Senate Whip position

-- 1973: Son, Teddy Jr.'s right leg is amputated due to bone cancer.

-- Nov. 4, 1979: The infamous Roger Mudd interview in which he couldn't articulate why he wanted to be president.