

# Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis

First Lady of the United States (1929 – 1994)

Born Jacqueline Lee Bouvier in Southampton, New York, Jacqueline was the daughter of John Vernou Bouvier III, a Wall Street stockbroker, and his wife Janet Norton Lee. She had a younger sister, Caroline Lee Bouvier, born in 1933, and later known as Lee Radziwill. Her parents divorced, and in 1942 Jacqueline's mother married Standard Oil heir Hugh D. Auchincloss, Jr. Jacqueline spent two years at Vassar, and after a Junior year abroad, transferred to George Washington University, graduating in 1951.

She met John F. Kennedy in May 1952 when he was running for the Senate, and they were wed the following year in Newport. On January 2, 1960, JFK announced his candidacy for the Presidency, and began campaigning around the country. Initially, Mrs. Kennedy took an active role in the campaign, but when she learned she was pregnant she stayed in Georgetown, where she gave interviews, answered correspondence and taped commercials, including the first political television ad in Spanish. Two weeks after her husband narrowly won the election, she gave birth to John, Jr.

Mrs. Kennedy put her personal stamp on the White House during her years there. She had a great appreciation for art, music and culture, and she was closely involved with the redecoration and restoration of the White House, both inside and out. It was her first major project there.

The Kennedys traveled to France where the French-speaking Jacqueline was enormously popular. At the urging of JOHN KENNETH GALBRAITH, President Kennedy's ambassador to India, Mrs. Kennedy undertook a tour of India and Pakistan. Mrs. Kennedy was with her husband on that fateful day in Dallas in November 1963.

Following the assassination, she stepped back from official public view, emerging from time to time. In October 1968, she married Aristotle Onassis on his private island in Greece. He died in Paris in 1975. Following his death, Ms. Onassis accepted an offer from THOMAS GUINZBURG to take an editorial position at Viking Press. In 1978, an old friend, JOHN SARGENT, head of Doubleday, persuaded her to become an editor there. She stayed active and productive at Doubleday until her death at home in May 1994. She was 64. She was survived by her two children. Mrs. Onassis was a familiar sight at lunch in the club.

