

18th July, 1999

THE KENNEDYS

DEAR DIARY, a few days ago, John F. Kennedy Jr. died in a plane crash off the coast of Martha's Vineyard on the east coast of America. JFK Jr., aged 38, was the pilot and his wife Carolyn and her sister Lauren also died in the crash. These Kennedys seem to have bad luck when it comes to dying before their time.

What is it with the assassinations and planes falling out of the sky? He's not the first Kennedy to die in a plane crash. I don't know any family to have more than one member shot to his or her death and more than one member die in separate plane crashes. I mean what are the chances? I just think it's strange to have such a famous, high profile family with a lot of them dying before they get to old age in such tragic circumstances. I hope I don't get the curse for saying this out loud!

If I ever met a man by the surname of Kennedy, he sure as hell ain't marrying me. I don't want to hear a word about running for office. I'm not riding in his car, front nor back. I'm not sitting next to him on a stage facing a crowd while he's giving a speech. I'm not letting him fly a plane, well not with me in it. In fact, if the weather's bad, I'm not walking next to him because lightning is bound to strike us down and kill us.

I'll be happy to settle for a man with the surname Jones, Smith or Brown.

August Mayfield

CHILDREN OF JOSEPH AND ROSE KENNEDY



Joseph Patrick Kennedy Jr., born July 25, 1915. Dies when his bomber, heavily laden with high explosives, blows up over the English Channel on Aug. 12, 1944.

John Fitzgerald Kennedy, born May 29, 1917; 35th U.S. president. Married Jacqueline Bouvier on Sept. 12, 1953. They had three children. He was assassinated on Nov. 22, 1963, in Dallas. He was 46. Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis died May 19, 1994, of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, a cancer of the lymphatic system. She was 64.

Rosemary Kennedy, born Sept. 13, 1918. She has been institutionalized since 1941 because of retardation and a failed lobotomy.

Kathleen Agnes Kennedy, born Feb. 20, 1920. Died in a plane crash on May 13, 1948.

Eunice Mary Kennedy, born July 10, 1921. Married Robert Sergeant Shriver Jr. on May 23, 1953. They had five children, including TV journalist Maria Shriver. [Maria is married to **Arnold Schwarzenegger**].

Patricia Kennedy, born May 6, 1924. Married actor Peter Lawford on April 24, 1954. They had four children.

Robert Francis Kennedy, born Nov. 20, 1925; U.S. senator and former U.S. attorney general. Married Ethel Skakel on June 17, 1950. They had 11 children. He was assassinated in Los Angeles on June 6, 1968.

Jean Ann Kennedy, born Feb. 20, 1928. Former ambassador to Ireland. Married Stephen Edward Smith on May 19, 1956. They had four children, including William Kennedy Smith who was acquitted of rape in 1991 at the family's Palm Beach estate.

Edward Moore Kennedy, born Feb. 22, 1932. U.S. senator. Critically injured in plane crash June 19, 1964. On July 18, 1969, involved in a car crash on Chappaquiddick in Massachusetts. His passenger, campaign aide Mary Jo Kopechne, drowns. Married Virginia Joan Bennett on Nov. 29, 1958; divorced in 1984. They had three children. Married Victoria Reggie in 1992.

THIRD GENERATION

Children of John and Jackie Kennedy



Caroline Bouvier Kennedy, born Nov. 27, 1957. Married Edwin Arthur Schlossberg on July 19, 1986. They have three children.

John Fitzgerald Kennedy Jr., born Nov. 25, 1960. Married Carolyn Bessette on Sept. 21, 1996, on secluded Cumberland Island, Ga. [Both died in plane crash July 1999].

Patrick Bouvier Kennedy, born Aug. 7, 1963; died Aug. 9, 1963.

The above extract from St. Petersburg Times online