

John Fitzgerald Kennedy: 1917 - 1963

- August 20, 1914** Joseph P. Kennedy buys the house at 83 Beals Street, Brookline, Massachusetts
- October 7, 1914** Rose Elizabeth Fitzgerald and Joseph Patrick Kennedy marry
- July 25, 1915** Joseph Patrick Kennedy, Jr. is born in Hull, Massachusetts
- May 29, 1917** John Fitzgerald Kennedy is born at 83 Beals Street
- September 13, 1918** Rosemary Kennedy is born at 83 Beals Street
- February 20, 1920** Kathleen Agnes Kennedy is born at 83 Beals Street
- March 1920** Joseph Kennedy purchases house on corner of Naples and Abbottsford Roads in Brookline, Massachusetts
- July 10, 1921** Eunice Mary Kennedy is born at 51 Abbottsford Road, Brookline
- September 12, 1921** John enters kindergarten at the Edward Devotion School, a public elementary school in Brookline
- May 6, 1924** Patricia Kennedy is born at 51 Abbottsford Road, Brookline
- Fall 1924** Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. and John F. Kennedy enroll at Dexter School, a private school for boys in Brookline
- November 20, 1925** Robert Francis Kennedy is born at 51 Abbottsford Road, Brookline
- September 1927** The Kennedy family moves from Brookline to Riverdale (Bronx), New York
- February 20, 1928** Jean Ann Kennedy is born at St. Margaret's Hospital in Dorchester, Massachusetts
- September 24, 1930** John F. Kennedy, 13, enters the eighth grade at the Canterbury School in New Milford, Connecticut

September 19, 1931	John F. Kennedy, 14, enters his first year at Choate School in Wallingford, Connecticut
February 22, 1932	Edward Moore Kennedy is born at St. Margaret's Hospital in Dorchester, Massachusetts
June 8, 1935	John F. Kennedy, 18, graduates from Choate
October 26, 1935	John Kennedy enters his freshman year at Princeton University
December 12, 1935	Due to illness, John Kennedy withdraws from Princeton
September 28, 1936	John F. Kennedy, 19, enters Harvard College
June 20, 1940	John F. Kennedy graduates <i>magna cum laude</i> from Harvard
August 1, 1940	John F. Kennedy, 23, publishes <i>Why England Slept</i> , based on his Harvard thesis
October 8, 1941	John F. Kennedy enlists in the United States Navy
August 2, 1943	Japanese destroyer sinks PT-109, commanded by Lt. John F. Kennedy, in the South Pacific
June 12, 1944	John F. Kennedy receives the Navy and Marine Corps Medal for "extremely heroic conduct as Commanding Officer of Motor Torpedo Boat 109"
August 12, 1944	Lt. Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr., 29, is killed on a mission when his PB-44 drone Liberator explodes over the English Channel
April 25-June 16, 1945	John F. Kennedy serves as a reporter for the International News Services
April 26, 1946	John F. Kennedy announces his candidacy for the Democratic nomination to Congress from Massachusetts' Eleventh Congressional District
November 5, 1946	John F. Kennedy is elected to his first political office, United States Congressman from the Eleventh District of Massachusetts, with over 70% of the popular vote

May 13, 1948	Kathleen Kennedy Cavendish is killed in a plane crash
November 2, 1948	John F. Kennedy is elected to a second term as Congressman from the Eleventh District of Massachusetts
November 7, 1950	John F. Kennedy is elected to a third term from the Eleventh District of Massachusetts
April 24, 1952	John F. Kennedy announces his candidacy for the U.S. Senate
November 4, 1952	Kennedy is elected U.S. Senator from Massachusetts
September 12, 1953	Kennedy, 36, marries Jacqueline Lee Bouvier in St. Mary's Church in Newport, Rhode Island
October 21, 1954	Kennedy undergoes spinal surgery at the Hospital for Special Surgery in New York
February 11, 1955	Kennedy undergoes a second spinal operation in New York; while recovering, he writes <i>Profiles in Courage</i>
August 17, 1956	Kennedy narrowly loses the Democratic vice-presidential nomination to Estes Kefauver
May 6, 1957	John Kennedy's <i>Profiles in Courage</i> is awarded the 1957 Pulitzer Prize for biography
November 27, 1957	Caroline Bouvier Kennedy is born to Jacqueline, 28, and John F. Kennedy, 40, in the New York Lying-In Hospital
November 4, 1958	John Kennedy is elected to his second term in the US Senate by the largest margin in history
January 2, 1960	Kennedy, 42, formally announces his candidacy for the presidency of the United States
July 13, 1960	Kennedy wins presidential nomination at the Democratic National Convention in Los Angeles
November 8, 1960	Kennedy is elected 35th president of the United States, defeating Richard Nixon by a narrow margin

November 25, 1960	John F. Kennedy, Jr., is born to Jacqueline and John Kennedy at Georgetown Hospital in Washington, D.C.
January 20, 1961	Kennedy, 43, is inaugurated President of the United States
January 21 & 24, 1961	Kennedy signs Executive Orders increasing the quality and quantity of food distributed to jobless Americans and expanding Food for Peace program abroad
January 30, 1961	Kennedy asks Congress to include health insurance in the Social Security program
February 2, 1961	Kennedy asks Congress for a program to improve the impact of recession, including food stamps, extended benefits for unemployed workers, and welfare payments for children
February 15, 1961	Kennedy warns Soviets to avoid interfering in UN peace-keeping mission to the Congo
March 1, 1961	Kennedy signs the bill establishing the Peace Corps
March 13, 1961	Kennedy proposes the Alliance for Progress with Latin American countries, emphasizing democratic reform and economic development
March 23, 1961	Kennedy calls for long-term foreign aid program with a new emphasis on self-help
March 28, 1961	Kennedy asks Congress for a major defense appropriation to ensure national security; this initiates the largest and most rapid defense build-up in the nation's peacetime history
April 17, 1961	Attempt to overthrow Cuban Premier Fidel Castro fails; Cuban exiles under the direction of the US government are killed or captured at the Bay of Pigs, Cuba
April 20, 1961	Kennedy assumes responsibility for the failed Bay of Pigs invasion
May 1, 1961	Kennedy signs Area Redevelopment bill to aid communities with chronic unemployment

May 25, 1961	President Kennedy proposes an American space effort to put a man on the moon by the end of the decade
June 3-4, 1961	President Kennedy meets with Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev in Vienna to discuss nuclear testing, disarmament, and the conflict in Southeast Asia
June 30, 1961	Kennedy signs a bill extending Social Security benefits to five million people and lowering retirement age to 62; Kennedy also signs a comprehensive Housing Bill, initiating aid to middle income families and mass transportation users, and increasing funding to urban renewal and elderly housing projects
July 20, 1961	Kennedy signs bill doubling federal effort to halt water pollution
July 25, 1961	Kennedy tells nation of determination to deter war in West Berlin, increasing military presence; Soviet deadline for East German Treaty passes
August 7, 1961	Kennedy signs first of three bills creating national seashores
August 8, 1961	Kennedy signs most comprehensive wheat and feed grain bill since 1938, resulting in higher farm income and lower food surpluses
September 3, 1961	Kennedy signs new minimum wage bill, the first increase since its original passage
September 22, 1961	Kennedy signs the Peace Corps Act
September 25, 1961	Kennedy, in a speech to the United Nations General Assembly, endorses complete disarmament and challenges the Soviet Union to a "peace race"
September 26, 1961	Kennedy signs a bill establishing the first full-scale, full-time disarmament agency in the world
December 15, 1961	Kennedy renews American commitment to Vietnamese independence

March 2, 1962	Kennedy announces that because of Soviet atmospheric nuclear testing, American testing will continue unless an effective test ban is signed
March 15, 1962	Kennedy signs first major federal bill to retrain jobless victims of chronic unemployment
April 5, 1962	Kennedy calls for overhaul of federal transportation policies; renews request for urban mass transportation program
April 11, 1962	Kennedy urges reconsideration of inflationary steel price increase
July 2, 1962	President Kennedy couples depreciation reform with tax credit to spur greater investment in industry
July 26, 1962	Kennedy signs the most far-reaching revision of public welfare legislation since enactment in 1935, emphasizing family rehabilitation and training
September 26, 1962	Kennedy signs bill enabling construction of world's largest atomic power plant in Hanford, Washington
September 30, 1962	President Kennedy announces federal action to carry out court order for integration of University of Mississippi with the admission of James Meredith
October 2, 1962	Kennedy signs United Nations bond issue bill authorizing American financial participation in UN peacekeeping operations in Congo and elsewhere
October 10, 1962	Kennedy signs first major improvement of Food and Drug laws since 1938, protecting families against untested and ineffective drugs
October 11, 1962	Kennedy signs Trade Expansion Act, to help build free world economic unity
October 16 - 28, 1962	Cuban Missile Crisis
October 22, 1962	Kennedy announces naval blockade of Cuba to halt Soviet nuclear build-up
October 28, 1962	USSR removes missile installations from Cuba

November 20, 1962	Kennedy signs executive order barring racial discrimination in federal housing
January 14, 1963	Kennedy calls for massive tax reduction and tax reform
March 22, 1963	Kennedy urges passages of 24th amendment, prohibiting poll taxes (a fee charged for voting in a national election)
June 10, 1963	Kennedy delivers a speech at American University on world peace and nuclear disarmament
June 11, 1963	Kennedy mobilizes Alabama National Guard to carry out court-ordered admission of two African-Americans to University of Alabama; broadcasts a civil rights message to the nation, calling for legislation
June 22, 1963	Kennedy proposes sweeping Civil Rights legislation, guaranteeing equal opportunity to education, employment, public accommodations, voting, and access to federal programs
June 26, 1963	Kennedy visits West Berlin, and delivers his “Ich bin ein Berliner” speech
September 20, 1963	Kennedy, in address to United Nations General Assembly, proposes additional cooperation with the Soviet Union, including space exploration; United States and Soviet Union subsequently agree on outer space disarmament
September 24, 1963	Kennedy signs bill establishing first major program that provides assistance for construction of higher education classrooms
October 7, 1963	Kennedy signs Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, first agreement of the nuclear age
October 9, 1963	Kennedy announces agreement with Soviet Union to open private negotiations for sale of American wheat
October 24, 1963	Kennedy signs bill launching first major national drive against mental illness and mental retardation

November 21, 1963	Kennedy asks economic advisors to prepare “War on Poverty” program for 1964
November 22, 1963	John F. Kennedy, 46, is assassinated in Dallas, Texas
July 19, 1964	John F. Kennedy birthplace, at 83 Beals Street in Brookline, is dedicated a national landmark
May 27, 1967	President Lyndon Johnson establishes John F. Kennedy National Historic Site
June 5, 1968	Robert F. Kennedy is assassinated in Los Angeles, California (dies June 6)
May 29, 1969	Rose Kennedy dedicates John F. Kennedy National Historic Site in Brookline

Sources:

Harrison, Barbara and Daniel Terris. (1992). *A Twilight Struggle: The Life of John Fitzgerald Kennedy*. Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Books: New York.

The John F. Kennedy Library and Museum - <http://www.cs.umb.edu/jfklibrary/index.htm>