

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF RICHMOND
BOOKMARK SERIES

WHITE HOUSE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION (WHITE HOUSE COLLECTION)

John F. Kennedy

Biography

Full Name:

John Fitzgerald Kennedy

Birth Date & Place:

May 29, 1917

Brookline, Massachusetts

Schooling:

Graduated from Harvard University in 1940

Lived:

Hyannis Park and Boston, Massachusetts

Washington, D.C. (White House)

Death:

November 22, 1963 in Dallas, Texas after being assassinated by Lee Harvey Oswald

Achievements

1961-1963: He was the 35th president of the United States.

In 1962, the Soviet Union stationed missiles in Cuba, instigating the Cuban Missile Crisis. President Kennedy ordered the Soviets to remove their missiles. For several days the world was on the brink of nuclear war. Eventually, the Soviet leadership “blinked” and removed their missiles in response to a United States blockade.

The American military build-up in Vietnam began under Kennedy.

Fun Facts

His portrait is on the half dollar.

Nicknames: “JFK,” “Jack”

Quotes

“And so, my fellow Americans: ask not what your country can do for you – ask what you can do for your country.”

Quotes (cont.)

"...pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe, in order to assure the survival and the success of liberty."

What is the Value of a Half Dollar?

A half dollar is worth 50 cents. This value can also be written as 50¢ or \$.50. It is equivalent to 50 pennies, 10 nickels, 5 dimes, or 2 quarters.

When was it First Issued?

The half dollar was coined in 1794; the Kennedy half dollar was issued in 1964.

What is on the Back of the Coin?

The coin shows the Presidential Seal of Office, which has an eagle with expanded wings pointing downwards, bearing upon its breast the U.S. Shield and carrying an olive branch and three arrows in its talons.

Trivia

The average life span of a half dollar is 25 years.

In 1976, a bicentennial version of the Kennedy half dollar was issued with Independence Hall on the reverse side.

Web Resources

www.usmint.gov

www.ustreas.gov/education/index.html

www.whitehouse.gov/history/presidents

<http://ap.grolier.com/presidents>

www.americanpresidents.org



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