

BRYANT COLLEGE

ORDER OF EXERCISES

MEMORIAL SERVICE

NOVEMBER 25, 1963

1. Mr. Matheway
- 2. Dr. Jacobs, President
3. John S. Adams, President of the
Bryant Christian Association
4. Warren R. Corin, President of
the Hillel Foundation
5. Anthony E. Fassell, President
of the Newman Club
- 6. Mr. Appleby, Vice-President and
Treasurer
7. Minute of silence, followed by
taps
8. Lord's Prayer

Dr. E. Gardner Jacobs
Memorial Service for President Kennedy
Bryant College Auditorium
November 25, 1963

COLLEGE OFFICERS, FACULTY MEMBERS,
RESIDENT HALL DIRECTORS, STUDENTS AND
ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE BRYANT COLLEGE FAMILY:

We are gathered here today to pay tribute to our martyred President in our own place and in our own way. The sudden tragic death of our heroic leader, John Fitzgerald Kennedy, brings us together with a feeling of unparalleled loss and in a world that can never be quite the same again.

We mourn with the late President's family to whom this blow has been inexpressibly cruel. While no grief of ours can touch theirs in its personal intimacy, the nature of the American Presidency is such that the office belongs to every one of us. Our grief is intensified by our profound admiration of this man who was cut off in the prime of his life. His special youthful appeal makes this terrible loss especially tragic to the young people of our country. College students, especially identified themselves with John Kennedy. They loved his idealism. They loved his causes - the fight for civil rights, the Peace Corps, the battle for freedom inside our country and out. He was the youthful embodiment of vigor and vitality.

Soon he will be taken to a hero's rest at Arlington Cemetery. But the splendid words of his Inaugural Address still ring in our ears. He spoke of "carrying the torch of his generation." And he chose a poet to be the spokesman of that occasion. Who can ever forget the immortal lines of Robert Frost as he recited, "The Gift Outright" - "We were withholding from our land of living, and forthwith found salvation in surrender."

John Fitzgerald Kennedy surrendered himself entirely to America. He gave his last full measure of devotion to the presidency. A hero of World War II, he showed the same selfless dedication to his work. He loved the presidency. Just last month he said at a press conference - "As far as the job of President goes, it is rewarding. My definition of happiness has been defined by the Greeks and I will define it again. 'It is the full use of powers along the lines of excellence.' I find therefore, the Presidency provides some happiness."

We take profound pride in the fact that he was a man with deep regard for education and the intellectual man. He surrounded himself with brilliant men. His speeches made soaring use of the English language.

May John Fitzgerald Kennedy's life serve to inspire each one of us to seek responsibility and each in his own way attempt to emulate the courage, the loyalty, and the devotion which he gave without measure and with his last breath.

May the unforgettable words of that Inaugural Address live forever in our hearts and provide a guiding light for future generations yet to come..... "Ask not what your country can do for you - ask what you can do for your country!"