

HYANNISPORTER

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DIRECTOR &
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HARVEY GOLDBERG



IN MEMORY OF
BONNIE C. GARDNER,
1932-2003

JFK Centennial Tour

Peter Engles & Peter Klages

On the occasion of the 100th birthday of President John F. Kennedy, the two most famous German JFK collectors and historians Peter Engles (50) and Peter Klages (58) traveled from Germany on a "JFK Centennial Tour" to the USA., the trip was organized and put together By Peter Engles (www.john-f-kennedy.info) that took two and a half years of planning. Both have been intensively dealing with John F. Kennedy, his life, family, and his history, for 40 years.



Peter Engles (L) & Peter Klages (R)
At the JFK Library

Their tour started from Munich on May 26, 2017 with their arrival in Boston. The first stop was at 21 Beacon Street, close to the Union State House (where JFK had his office as a candidate for Congress in 1946) (right). In Boston, of course, the Birthplace of JFK at 83 Beals Street was visited and a personal appointment with JFK Library curator Steven Rothstein was organized and scheduled for May 28. They met with William Rice at the Library as well.



Congressional Candidate JFK

On the same day they went to the Centennial Concert in Hyannis Port, organized by the Hyannis Kennedy Museum. The actual day of the 100th birthday, they spent a day in Washington, visiting the Kennedy graves in Arlington. They had dinner in Georgetown at Martin's Tavern - a place where JFK was a regular and where he proposed to Jacqueline Bouvier. Hyannis Port was next on the agenda from May 30 to June 6. It was one of the best highlights and most emotional parts of the trip.

With the help of Stephen Kennedy Smith, Jr., son of Jean Kennedy Smith (JFK's last living sister) and the Edward Kennedy Institute, Peter Engles and Peter Klages were invited to the Kennedy home (left) for a personal guided tour. In a very friendly, hospitable and very personal atmosphere, they stayed for two hours and felt the spirit of the Kennedys. A unique and unforgettable experience.



John Kennedy home in Hyannis

In Hyannis Port the Kennedy Memorial and the John F. Kennedy Museum were visited. Curator John Allen took a lot of time for a personal conversation and a tour of the museum (right). At the end of the three-day stay in Hyannis was a short detour to Martha's Vineyard and Chappaquiddick.



On June 6, they were back on the road for a day trip to the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Michigan to see the Lincoln Continental from the Kennedy assassination in 1963. In the middle of the tour was a three-day stopover in New York City, followed by an imposing trip to Dallas and Fort Worth. Stephen Fagin from the Sixth Floor Museum had personally invited both of them and also recorded an interview for the museum with them. In Dallas, they had a beautiful and very personal experience at the "Texas Theater," where Lee Harvey Oswald was arrested. On June 10, they were both back in Munich after a very impressive but also exhausting trip.



JFK X-100 LIMO, Ford Museum, Dearborn, MI



SIXTH FLOOR MUSEUM, Dealey Plaza



Stephen Smith, Jr.