

BIOGRAPHY OF LUCI BAINES JOHNSON

Luci Baines Johnson, the first teen in the White House in more than half a century, has many interests, among them, music, science and sociology; but her main interest is people. She has a special talent for making friends and for getting along with others. Outgoing and natural, with an instinctive tactfulness, she is at ease in any group under almost any circumstances -- whether it be at a houseparty with her peers, a diplomatic function, or reviewing a parade as her father's personal envoy.

Luci is very much an individualist -- a forthright person with firm convictions and a strong sense of independence -- traits of character which have been fostered by her parents who have given her adult consideration in many things while impressing upon her that freedom and independence impose an obligation to act responsibly. Even as a pre-teen, Luci, who has definite ideas about fashion and clothes, was allowed to select and buy her own wardrobe; but she had to keep within the budget allowed her. She was given her own bank account and with it the responsibility of living within her means. A flair for sewing has enabled her to satisfy her passion for style and good grooming without sacrificing good economic practice.

Luci does not take herself seriously; but she does take seriously the obligation she feels is hers, as a member of the First Family, to act and behave responsibly.

She is also serious about her studies at the National Cathedral School for Girls where she will be a senior this fall (1964). She prefers to be treated, both by her teachers and her classmates, just like any other student; and this is generally the rule. A casual albeit understanding attitude is shown by school officials and her fellow students to her outside activities and duties; and Luci is pleased that exceptions are made for her only when absolutely necessary.

In addition to sewing, Luci counts cooking, traveling, and music among her favorite activities. She plays the piano well and improvises compositions for her own pleasure. She also enjoys literature and has a definite capability for writing both poetry and prose. She is good at recitation and demonstrated this on July 25, 1964, at Interlochen, Michigan, when she narrated Sergei Prokofiev's "Peter and the Wolf" for a benefit concert conducted by Van Cliburn at the National Music Camp. But her ambition at present, is to go into nursing.

Luci's activities since moving into the White House have been varied and full. In February, 1964, she was one of seven girls chosen to represent her school at a conference in Buck Hill Falls, Pennsylvania, sponsored by the Council for Religion in Independent Schools. She participated in discussion groups, attended lectures, and joined in the other recreational activities offered.

The following month, Luci served as honorary student chairman of the National Symphony's Music for Young America, the annual series of free concerts for high school students visiting Washington.

The end of April and the first of May, she was an official guest at the Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival in Winchester, Virginia, where her coronation as Apple Blossom Queen was attended by the President and Mrs. Johnson.

Luci was the honor guest and her father's official representative at the annual Milk Day Celebration in Harvard, Illinois, in June. She

rode at the head of the parade for this farming community's special celebration, down the main street which was painted white for the day. Later she joined other dignitaries, including Illinois state officials and political leaders, in the reviewing stand where she watched the parade and festivities which culminated with the ceremony in which she crowned the 1964 Harvard Milk Day Queen.

In June, Luci began her first summertime job as part-time assistant to Dr. Robert A. Kraskin, Washington optometrist who specializes in eye therapy. She works three days a week and has not missed a single working day, even though this has meant that she has not been able to join her family on some of their holidays this summer to Johnson City, Texas.

Although politics is not Luci's primary interest, she is concerned about people and the working of government. It is for this reason, she has said, that she is taking an active role together with her more politically-minded sister in working with Young Citizens for Johnson.

Luci dates frequently, and her own cheerful acceptance of the White House Secret Service, required by law, is reflected in the casual and natural attitude her friends take toward this extra companion.

The youngest Johnson daughter is a petite blue-eyed brunette. She is 5' 3 1/2" tall and wears a size seven dress. She swims well, plays a fair game of tennis and enjoys most spectator sports. She was born July 2, 1947, in Washington, D. C.

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