

Basic Detail Report

George Wallace with his second wife

Cornelia, 'the Jackie Kennedy of the Rednecks'

Date

1972-1979

Medium

gelatin silver print

Description

George Corley Wallace, Jr. was an American politician and the 45th Governor of Alabama, having served two nonconsecutive terms and two consecutive terms as a Democrat: 1963–1967, 1971–1979 and 1983–1987. Wallace has the third longest gubernatorial tenure in post-Constitutional U.S. history at 5,848 days. After four runs for U.S. President (three as a Democrat and one on the American Independent Party ticket), he earned the title "the most influential loser" in 20th century U.S. politics, according to biographers Dan T. Carter and Stephan Leshner. A 1972 assassination attempt left Wallace paralyzed, and he used a wheelchair for the remainder of his life. He is remembered for his Southern populist and segregationist attitudes during the mid-20th century period of the African-American civil rights movement and activism, which gained passage of federal civil rights legislation in the mid-1960s to enforce constitutional rights for all citizens. He eventually renounced segregationism but remained a populist. Cornelia Ellis Wallace, previously Cornelia Ellis Snively (January 28, 1939 – January 8, 2009), was the First Lady of Alabama from 1971–1978 and the second wife of Democratic Governor George C. Wallace.

Dimensions

Overall: 30.2 x 20.5 cm (11 7/8 x 8 in.)

