John Paul II died at 84

By Victor L. Simpson
Associated Press Writer

VATICAN CITY — Pope John Paul II, who helped topple communism in Europe and left a deep conservative stamp on the church that he led for 26 years, died Saturday night in his Vatican apartment, ending a long public struggle against debilitating illness. He was 84.

"We all feel like orphans like this evening," Undersecretary of State Archbishop Leonardo Sandri told the crowd of 70,000 that gathered in St. Peter's Square below the pope's still-lighted apartment windows.

In the massive piazza that stretches from St. Peter's Basilica, the assembled flock fell into a stunned silence before some people broke into applause — an Italian tradition in which mourners often clap for important figures. Others wept. Still others recited the rosary.

A seminarian slowly waved a crucifix.

Please see POPE, page 12A

In contrast to its ancient traditions, the church announced the pope's death in the most modern of communication forms: an e-mail.

Religion mixes with politics in marriage vote

Kansans to decide on Tuesday

By Scott Rothschild

After the Rev. Ken Grenz of Spring Hill United Methodist Church wrote in his church newsletter that the same-sex marriage amendment was contrary to Methodist teachings, leffler were put on the windowsills of cars in the church parking lot on Palm Sunday by a Republican Party group that urged a no vote on the measure.

"We were targeted," Grenz said. "We are in an era when the pendulum swings, and now the religious right is on a roll."

The incident typifies what has become a volatile mix of religion and politics in Kansas not seen since

Please see REASON, page 14A
In Cold Blood: A Legacy

Tragedy remains at heart of Holcomb

The book that changed a town affects family, friends

Continued from Page 3A

A day shy of 45 years later, and other them this is one of the holiest and the highest moments of the entire 16 years of American life to signify the events of Nov. 15, 1959, a day that would forever change the life of Truman Capote. In his "In Cold Blood," published 45 long ago, he told, ended six human lives.

A day shy of 45 years later, the tragedy lingers. It shows prominently in the lives of those touched most directly. For others, it plays a subtle part. For the town, what happened on that November night at the house on the end of this dirt lane probably will be its most notable aspect forever.

It was an event of unspoken horror, the cold-blooded murder of a respected farm family, the Clutter family, including their father,, and their daughter, Nancy, and son, Ronny. It was something to forget, many say now, because the pain cut so deep. They want to stem the tide of visits to the infamous old house on the outskirts of Holcomb's darkest chapter. They say it doesn't matter anymore, it's ancient history. It wasn't as big a deal in the past, too. People in Holcomb could put the book out to bed.

Those closest to the victims still, almost a half-century later, will rarely, if ever, talk about that night.

The surviving daughter of Herb and Bonnie Clutter speak publicly in public places, and in her dreams, about the pain and fear of the years after, about the crimes. She talks about the pain, but only sparingly. It takes 45 years, a loving family and faith to heal this woman.

When it comes to the Clutter story, the Finney County Historical Museum contains no mention of this prominent farm family, the murders or the publicity the crimes have brought to the area. And nowhere in Holcomb is the Clutter family remembered, no matter their accomplishments while living.

A memorial would just open up the wounds, says Dennis Lester, Holcomb's mayor. "Why do we have memorials? To remind us?"

Holcomb might want to forget, but the world doesn't. Dr. Capote's best-selling book, which depicted the murders, the chase and the eventual execution of the killers. Blame the two movies — thus far — the book inspired. Some kind of tribute would pull people from all over the globe to this small Kansas town, to the lane of notoriety.

To the house where it all began, a place to visit. Some say want to go to play the piano in the Clutter home. There is no piano. The piano was stolen.

The piano is long gone, but the family that played it and the music they created still (I know) yearn to play it.

Losing

On April 20, 1959, the day before Charles Starkweather and his girlfriend, Caril Ann Fugate, killed eight people on a 23-hour killing spree.

The book takes the murders as anything but an ordinary event. Instead, it looks into much larger questions: What could have caused the murders? What do they mean? Why did it happen? What makes any of this happen?

Without "In Cold Blood," the murders probably would be forgotten in the flood of news that consumed the country and the world. Instead, in part, fueled the lingering pain in the Clutter family and in Holcomb and Garden City.

But, West says. Capote harmed the people in another way. West and many other stories show how before the killers arrived. In the following weeks, not only he but there was always an air of suspicion that he had committed the crime.

He almost never talks about it — not to the journalists who call less and less often as the years go by, and not to the people of Holcomb, where he still lives and farms, because they still bring up the story. The murders have been, for some time, a non-topic in Holcomb. No one wants or needs to talk about it.

Healing

Overrebond Leonard Cowan said: "God offers us courage, love and faith, even though we are lost in the shadows of the valley of death. I'm sure he was with them in those last hours. Jesus has never promised us we would not suffer pain or sorrow but he has told us that he would be there to comfort them and give love and peace."" A thousand people attended the Clutter's funeral at Garden City's First Methodist Church, as an imposing structure that Herb Clutter attended every year a few days before his death. This November Sunday, without acknowledging the anniversary of the murders that will pass within the next 15 months, and Nabokov's criticism of the authors "In Cold Blood," the murders probably would be forgotten in the news that consumed the country and the world. Instead, in part, fueled the lingering pain in the Clutter family and in Holcomb and Garden City.

"We are still so involved in the Clutter family," says Capote, who is another in the line of published literature who is involved in the Clutter family and in Holcomb and Garden City.

Mr. West says Capote harmed the people in another way. West has many other stories about how the book affected them.

"It was just about a murder in a small town," says the author. "It was based on fact. It was widely read and enjoyed. It is one of the great American books of the 20th century."

The book teaches the murders as anything but an ordinary event. Instead, it looks into much larger questions: What could have caused the murders? What do they mean? Why did it happen? What makes any of this happen?

Without "In Cold Blood," the murders probably would be forgotten in the flood of news that consumed the country and the world. Instead, in part, fueled the lingering pain in the Clutter family and in Holcomb and Garden City.

But, West says. Capote harmed the people in another way. West has many other stories about how the book affected them. In 1969, Capote, who was the author of the book, got through it. He goes the train. It takes him there.

In "In Cold Blood," he goes the train. It takes him there.

"It was just about a murder in a small town," says the author. "It was based on fact. It was widely read and enjoyed. It is one of the great American books of the 20th century."

The book teaches the murders as anything but an ordinary event. Instead, it looks into much larger questions: What could have caused the murders? What do they mean? Why did it happen? What makes any of this happen?

Without "In Cold Blood," the murders probably would be forgotten in the flood of news that consumed the country and the world. Instead, in part, fueled the lingering pain in the Clutter family and in Holcomb and Garden City.

But, West says. Capote harmed the people in another way. West has many other stories about how the book affected them. In 1969, Capote, who was the author of the book, got through it. He goes the train. It takes him there.

In "In Cold Blood," he goes the train. It takes him there.

"It was just about a murder in a small town," says the author. "It was based on fact. It was widely read and enjoyed. It is one of the great American books of the 20th century."

The book teaches the murders as anything but an ordinary event. Instead, it looks into much larger questions: What could have caused the murders? What do they mean? Why did it happen? What makes any of this happen?

Without "In Cold Blood," the murders probably would be forgotten in the flood of news that consumed the country and the world. Instead, in part, fueled the lingering pain in the Clutter family and in Holcomb and Garden City.

But, West says. Capote harmed the people in another way. West has many other stories about how the book affected them. In 1969, Capote, who was the author of the book, got through it. He goes the train. It takes him there.

In "In Cold Blood," he goes the train. It takes him there.

"It was just about a murder in a small town," says the author. "It was based on fact. It was widely read and enjoyed. It is one of the great American books of the 20th century."

The book teaches the murders as anything but an ordinary event. Instead, it looks into much larger questions: What could have caused the murders? What do they mean? Why did it happen? What makes any of this happen?

Without "In Cold Blood," the murders probably would be forgotten in the flood of news that consumed the country and the world. Instead, in part, fueled the lingering pain in the Clutter family and in Holcomb and Garden City.

But, West says. Capote harmed the people in another way. West has many other stories about how the book affected them. In 1969, Capote, who was the author of the book, got through it. He goes the train. It takes him there.

In "In Cold Blood," he goes the train. It takes him there.

"It was just about a murder in a small town," says the author. "It was based on fact. It was widely read and enjoyed. It is one of the great American books of the 20th century."

The book teaches the murders as anything but an ordinary event. Instead, it looks into much larger questions: What could have caused the murders? What do they mean? Why did it happen? What makes any of this happen?

Without "In Cold Blood," the murders probably would be forgotten in the flood of news that consumed the country and the world. Instead, in part, fueled the lingering pain in the Clutter family and in Holcomb and Garden City.

But, West says. Capote harmed the people in another way. West has many other stories about how the book affected them. In 1969, Capote, who was the author of the book, got through it. He goes the train. It takes him there.

In "In Cold Blood," he goes the train. It takes him there.

"It was just about a murder in a small town," says the author. "It was based on fact. It was widely read and enjoyed. It is one of the great American books of the 20th century."

The book teaches the murders as anything but an ordinary event. Instead, it looks into much larger questions: What could have caused the murders? What do they mean? Why did it happen? What makes any of this happen?

Without "In Cold Blood," the murders probably would be forgotten in the flood of news that consumed the country and the world. Instead, in part, fueled the lingering pain in the Clutter family and in Holcomb and Garden City.

But, West says. Capote harmed the people in another way. West has many other stories about how the book affected them. In 1969, Capote, who was the author of the book, got through it. He goes the train. It takes him there.

In "In Cold Blood," he goes the train. It takes him there.

"It was just about a murder in a small town," says the author. "It was based on fact. It was widely read and enjoyed. It is one of the great American books of the 20th century."

The book teaches the murders as anything but an ordinary event. Instead, it looks into much larger questions: What could have caused the murders? What do they mean? Why did it happen? What makes any of this happen?

Without "In Cold Blood," the murders probably would be forgotten in the flood of news that consumed the country and the world. Instead, in part, fueled the lingering pain in the Clutter family and in Holcomb and Garden City.

But, West says. Capote harmed the people in another way. West has many other stories about how the book affected them. In 1969, Capote, who was the author of the book, got through it. He goes the train. It takes him there.

In "In Cold Blood," he goes the train. It takes him there.

"It was just about a murder in a small town," says the author. "It was based on fact. It was widely read and enjoyed. It is one of the great American books of the 20th century."

The book teaches the murders as anything but an ordinary event. Instead, it looks into much larger questions: What could have caused the murders? What do they mean? Why did it happen? What makes any of this happen?

Without "In Cold Blood," the murders probably would be forgotten in the flood of news that consumed the country and the world. Instead, in part, fueled the lingering pain in the Clutter family and in Holcomb and Garden City.

But, West says. Capote harmed the people in another way. West has many other stories about how the book affected them. In 1969, Capote, who was the author of the book, got through it. He goes the train. It takes him there.

In "In Cold Blood," he goes the train. It takes him there.
High school sweetheart recalls the day his life changed forever

Bob Rupp maintains resilient spirit through years of living with memories

By Melissa Lee

Gently, without words, he props the picture frames on the mantel, so close they're touching. Each contains a white photograph of a young man, dark hair, a strong jaw and a full, lower lip. The other photo shows a girl, smiling tentatively and brushing her smooth face with a whole-hearted glance. It's his junior high school photograph, with his name scrawled in ink on the back.

Standing at the counter, the man silently studies the photos as he signs a waiver from a white clipboard in front of him. The office worker soars in with a printout of a death certificate, but Rupp barely turns his head at the sound of his name. He signs the paper and returns it to the nurse, before slipping out the door. The nurse glances at the clock, muttering something about a sudden appointment.

When he speaks of Rupp, his voice becomes cryptic, as if the words would be dangerous. He was a beloved figure, one of Nancy's closest friends, a person who knew her well. His voice rises higher, more urgent, as if the words were的答案 to a puzzle. When he speaks of Rupp, he speaks of a man who was kind and gentle, a man who always seemed to have a smile on his face. The words are heavy, as if every syllable is a piece of a larger puzzle.

By the time he reaches the door, his voice has softened, as if the words were answers to a riddle. He is a man who was loved, a man who will be missed. He is a man who was a part of Nancy's life, a man who will be remembered for generations to come.

For a few years, I thought about it every day – it's not like that anymore.

Bob Rupp, about the death of his first love
"Life just turned to the serious. The reality of what the world is really like set in."

Bob Rupp

CONTRAINTS FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

where the Cutters' bodies had been prepared for viewing, before they were to be buried beside one another in the ground.

Larry is remembering watching the dozens of mourners, wondering whether he would manage to make the day and break down. He hadn't seen him shed a tear yet, even when Larry had shared his own deepest fears. He had never happened if Bob had still been in the house when the body of the Smith arrived.

The three approached the casket. When Bob saw Larry, lying so still and wearing a suit, his facial expression a dazed deadness. "This is real," he thought. "Jerry's gone."

Resenting the day, Rupp is rude but polite. He speaks deliberately, deliberately. He's rushed, harried, loudly fussed on the kitchen table, but his occasional pauses and slow inhalations express a sadness that feels far and a half decades have not completely erased.

Rupp remembers being at the Cutters' home. "He told me he couldn't eat," Larry says today that he couldn't watch. He smiled. It was the only time anyone would ever see Bob cry.

**Boyfriend and suspect**

The day after the murders, police officers drove Bob to the station in their car. He and several classmates and teachers visited his high school that day, grieving.

"We heard you passed in the family Saturday night, and we just wanted to talk. What questions," Rupp remembers the officers saying. He spent hours at the station, answering questions and taking a lie-detector test. He didn't even own a shotgun, he kept saying.

He understands who he was questioned, he says with a slight shrug and with Colleen nodding in agreement. After all, he was the last to see the Cutters alive.

What he doesn't understand is why, even after he passed the lie-detector test, went to the homicide squad on High School that day, the police didn't leave him alone.

He doesn't understand why people try to change his image so strangely. Why even some of his friends ignored him.

To this man, so sad that Bob decided to transfer to Georgia Tech after his senior year. The kids were sick about her and her boyfriend. The story about how they started dating is not clear, but it seems the boyfriend was sleeping with her every day.

"It's taken me time to do that, trust me with the kids," Rupp says, with a small, proud smile.

Lifecared back to normal. The same students who had turned a cold shoulder to Bob the year before elected him class president upon his return. He's always taken it as a spoilage. He's not mad at his classmates, he says. He understands the suspicion and the fear running through the community at large.

He became eligible to play in the middle of the basketball season. When he woke up and ran onto the court for the first time that year, everyone in the gym stood up. He knew he would never try for any more. You can't want to hurt anybody. You can't want to hurt anybody. You can't want to hurt anybody.

**Bob Rupp**

**Larry Strickland**

Nancy Cutters' boyfriend, still lives in Hickson - a mile from the Cutters' farm. Rupp and his wife, Colleen, have raised four children and found peace in their 41 years of marriage.

"You know, I never thought about it 'til just now, but Bob, you're kind of like Herb Clutter."

- Colleen Rupp, about her husband Bob

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF THE JOURNAL WORLD

Although this is not the first time to appear in print, Clutter has been a figure of importance in several areas of the community. He was raised in a family of six, and attended Georgia Tech on a partial scholarship. After graduating, he worked for several years in the field of computer science, before making a successful transition to the field of journalism.

Clutter has been a leader in community affairs, serving as a member of the local school board and as a volunteer for various community organizations. He is a devout Catholic, and is active in the local parish. Clutter is married and has four children, one of whom is a journalist in his own right.

**Monday**

The surviving Clutter kids have preserved their family's legacy.
Students spend months tracking book's impact

Depth reporting courses have been a staple of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Journalism and Mass Communication for years. Students get experience in project reporting as they tackle a story within a larger topic. Some past projects have included immigration, state security after Sept. 11, 2001, and cellphone use.

Fall 2004, the second year of the course, was led by Susan Gage and Jerry Sain, both graduates of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln White School of Journalism and Media Studies and former students at the University of Kansas, studied "In Cold Blood" as a work of journalism and literature. The goal of the class was to assess the impact of Truman Capote's self-described work of "novelistic nonfiction" through research and interviews with people who lived in Holcomb and Garden City—the two towns where the main parts of the story were set.

The students, under the guidance of their instructors, spent hours reading, researching, and interviewing people connected to the story. One of the goals of the class was to produce a book about the making of "In Cold Blood." The book, "In Cold Blood: A Legacy," was published in 2005 and was well-received by critics and the public.

Among the figures who played a prominent role in the story, two were particularly important: Robert K. DeBakey, who operated on Perry and an unnamed victim of the crime, and Lamont B. Grayson, who was Perry's defense attorney.

On the morning of April 2, 1954, Perry and Grayson were shot to death in the courthouse in Garden City. The murders were solved, and the two men were buried in the same grave.

Police work was his life. When Perry was shot in the head, another New York Times reporter, Herb Gold, ran towards the crime scene. He was badly injured and died the next day of his injuries.

What happened to other characters in Capote's book?

As the story of "In Cold Blood" unfolded, the lives of its characters were forever altered. Whether they were criminals or law enforcement officers, their stories will forever be remembered in the pages of the book.

The truth of the story is that it is a work of fiction, and while it may have been inspired by real events, it is not an accurate representation of the events that took place.

What happened to Robert K. DeBakey?

Robert K. DeBakey was born on May 27, 1898, in Philadelphia. He was a prominent surgeon and the founder of the Baylor College of Medicine. DeBakey became known for his expertise in the field of heart surgery and was a pioneer in the development of heart transplants.

In 1954, DeBakey was called upon to perform surgery on Perry and another man who was injured in the shooting. Despite his best efforts, both men died.

DeBakey continued to work as a surgeon and became known for his contributions to the field of heart surgery. He was awarded multiple honors and was recognized for his work all over the world.

What happened to Lamont B. Grayson?

Lamont B. Grayson was born on March 16, 1921, in Garden City, Kansas. He was a lawyer and the defense attorney for Perry in the trial that followed the shooting.

When Perry was shot, Grayson was in the courthouse with his client. The bullet hit him in the head, and he died shortly after the shooting.

Grayson was known for his dedication to his clients and his commitment to justice. He was a respected member of the legal community and was well-liked by his peers.

What happened to the other characters in "In Cold Blood"?

In addition to Perry and Grayson, the other characters in "In Cold Blood" had their own stories to tell. Whether they were victims, law enforcement officers, or witnesses, their experiences were forever changed by the events that took place.

The truth of the story is that it is a work of fiction, and while it may have been inspired by real events, it is not an accurate representation of the events that took place.

What happened to the rest of the family in "In Cold Blood"?

During the trial of Perry and Grayson, the other family members who were involved in the events also had their own experiences. Whether they were victims, witnesses, or law enforcement officers, their stories will forever be remembered.

The truth of the story is that it is a work of fiction, and while it may have been inspired by real events, it is not an accurate representation of the events that took place.

What happened to the rest of the family in "In Cold Blood"?

During the trial of Perry and Grayson, the other family members who were involved in the events also had their own experiences. Whether they were victims, witnesses, or law enforcement officers, their stories will forever be remembered.

The truth of the story is that it is a work of fiction, and while it may have been inspired by real events, it is not an accurate representation of the events that took place.

What happened to the rest of the family in "In Cold Blood"?

During the trial of Perry and Grayson, the other family members who were involved in the events also had their own experiences. Whether they were victims, witnesses, or law enforcement officers, their stories will forever be remembered.

The truth of the story is that it is a work of fiction, and while it may have been inspired by real events, it is not an accurate representation of the events that took place.
UPCOMING
Zulli Bailey on collo
A graduate of the Paul Robeson Conservatory and the Juilliard School, cellist Zulli Bailey has performed with orchestras across the country. He plays a cell.

Steve Earle at Liberty
Musician, artist, and songwriting weight-loss champ Steve Earle is never one to let the mainstream affect his art. The rebellious spirit has been channeled into his artistry, and he is known for his frankness about his own weight.

Miss Saigon headed to Lied
One of the most popular musicals of all time is headed for a weekend engagement at the Lied Center.

ON ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY, LAWRENCE ART AUCTION
ATTRACTING MORE ARTISTS AND BUYERS THAN EVER
By Mindie Paget

As Mike Ewell remembers it, the situation was pretty dire. Word came that the Lawrence Arts Center would not be getting an annual grant on which it had to depend. Director Ann Evans and company were faced with a choice: Either raise some money or let things continue going.

"At that point, we had a lot of artists in the community and the arts center had been the nucleus for shows and done a great deal. So, we were feeling like a district court judge turning sculptor who was then president of the arts center board," said, "Well, back. Let’s see if the artists want to help us out now that we need some help.”

So he called a handful of friends — Steve Edmonds, Berkeley Clark and Bob Wells — to see if they’d stand in as amateur auctioneers, and he put the word out to the city’s cadre of creative types, who responded by donating 63 works of art.

The inaugural auction — inauspicious for stretching into the wee hours of the morning because the friendly auctioneers milked the bids for all they were worth — generated $6,000.

That was 22 years ago.

Today, the Lawrence Art Auction is a local institution, as notable for being the year’s premier social event as it is for showcasing top-notch artwork. And it’s a cash cow, like your’s gala.

That’s 10 times the cash in 1989. What’s most impressive, however, is the ever-increasing support by artists. Evans says about 60 artists donated pieces for the inaugural event; 20 gave items this year.

"They see this as a way to support our program," Evans says.

Please see ART, page 20

ON ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY, LAWRENCE ART AUCTION
ATTRACTING MORE ARTISTS AND BUYERS THAN EVER

INSIDE
'When a Sneese Leaves'

Drum Drum review
The members of Drum Drum came together in Trieste in Europe, where they were all students at South Pacific University. In an effort to maintain the Pappas New Guinean culture, they created a sound that incorporates elements of island creeds and ethnic log drumming to dance and a taste of hip-hop and dub. The group performed Friday evening at the Lied Center.

Please see review on page 100.

Advice: 90
Books: 20
Events Listings: 100
Health: 40
Horseback: 90
Movies: 100
Puzzles: 90

CONTACT US

J W Staff Reports
Miss Saigon headed to Lied
One of the most popular musicals of all time is headed for a weekend engagement at the Lied Center.

"Miss Saigon," the longest-running show in Broadway history, will be staged Tuesday and Wednesday in Lawrence.

Set in the final days leading up to the American evacuation of Saigon in 1975, the musical tells the story of 850, a young Frenchman named Chris (Aidan Gillen) and a Vietnamese woman named Kim (Jennifer Paz) who fall deeply in love in an after-hours club run by the Engineer (John Michael Camell). After the fall of Saigon, Chris returns to the United States, pursu-

DARKNESS FALLS ON THE KENZA PROJ

Book garnered Truman Capote the attention he so craved

By Crystal K. White

In mid-December 1959, an eccentric writer from New York arrived on the rolling plains of western Kansas. Although Truman Capote had never been to the tiny town called Holcomb, he brought lofty intentions and ended up letting his book define himself and the town to the rest of the world forever.

Holcomb is home to what’s described as the world’s largest meat-pack-

BRIAN SCOTT/MISSOURI PACIFIC RAILROAD

CITY PULSE

"In Cold Blood" as the high point of Capote’s career.

Please see review, page 100.
Author glean inspiration from sneezy frustration

By Emily Miller

Idea came to Eudora resident Stephanie Pascual during a long, cold season with her husband and their infant daughter.

The experience gave her the idea to write a children’s book based on the adventures of a sneeze after it leaves. The book is appropriately titled “When a Sneeze Leaves”.

Pascual said she and her husband talked about where a sneeze might go when it leaves.

She said she and her husband decided that if they had written a book about the sneeze, the children’s book might go into the school and into other children’s lives.

Pascual said she recently received an email from the school about the book and that they were interested in the idea.

After the book was completed, Pascual decided to have it published by a self-publishing service on the Internet that would do the printing.

Author’s note: The book is currently available on Amazon and other online retailers.

‘To Kill a Mockingbird’ author helped

By Byrdie Miller

Truman Capote break the ice in Kansas

Opinions vary about Truman Capote’s Kansas. Some say he was a writer whose books are often read today, but that there is another writer who published a book called “In Cold Blood” in 1965 in which Capote portrayed his family’s Kansas roots.

Nelle Harper Lee, author of “To Kill a Mockingbird” and son of Truman Capote’s childhood friend, acknowledged in 1999 that she was “an insti-”

Lee and Capote have a history of working together on books, and Lee is known for her contributions to the literary world. She is the author of the novel “To Kill a Mockingbird” and the short story collection “Cape Hatteras”.

Lee’s work has been widely praised, and she has been awarded numerous honors for her contributions to literature. She is considered one of the greatest authors of the 20th century.

Lee’s writing career began in the 1950s with the publication of “To Kill a Mockingbird,” which has been translated into more than 40 languages and has sold over 15 million copies worldwide.

In 2001, Lee was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian honor that can be given by the U.S. government, for her contributions to literature and American culture.

Lee was known for her shyness and reserve, but she was also a dedicated teacher and mentor to many young writers.

The book, which was published in 1960, tells the story of a teenage girl named Scout Finch and her brother Jem, who are raised by their father, Atticus Finch, a lawyer in Maycomb, Alabama. The novel explores themes of prejudice, injustice, and the search for truth.

“Mockingbird” was a critical and commercial success, and it won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 1961. It has been adapted into several films and television series, and it remains a beloved classic of American literature.

Lee’s other works include the short story collection “Let Us Now Praise Famous Men,” which was published in 1941, and the novel “Go Set a Watchman,” which was published in 2015.

Lee’s writing career spanned more than 60 years, and her work continues to be studied and enjoyed by readers around the world.
Jack Hart, managing editor of The Oregonian

"Certainly it's an important book ... to demonstrate that the literary techniques of a novel could be applied to narrative journalism."
Impact on Capote

Book marked high point and start of author's gradual downward spiral

Allegations dating back to the 1960s that singer Andy Warhol paid Capote $5,000 to write about his friendship with John F. Kennedy were published in 1990, after Capote's death. The book was a major best-seller, but Capote's relationship with Warhol was fraught with tension, and Capote later said he后悔ed ever having written about Warhol. In 1991, Capote released a memoir, "Bedtime for Bonzo," about his childhood in Lawrence, Kansas, in the 1930s and 1940s. The book was a critical and commercial success, but it did not have the same impact as "In Cold Blood." In 1992, Capote published "Music for Chameleons," a collection of short stories and essays, which was well-received by critics and readers. However, Capote's personal life was in disarray, and he was struggle with substance abuse. In 1993, Capote was diagnosed with AIDS. He died on August 25, 1994, at the age of 66. His last book, "The Grass Harp," was published posthumously in 1996.