

In Loving Memory

Sister Anne Miriam Landolt, SSND



Birth
December 5, 1936

Baptism
December 26, 1936

Profession
August 1, 1955

Death
July 2, 2012

Burial
Sancta Maria
in Ripa Cemetery
St. Louis, Missouri

*Precious and blessed is
the death of the faithful
before God... for
they die in union with
their dear Jesus, in the
grace of God, in peace.*

Blessed Theresa of Jesus Gerhardinger
Foundress of the School Sisters of Notre Dame
Letter 11, September 10, 1831

The fourth and youngest child of Anna [Arkebauer] and Harold Landolt was born in Litchfield, Ill. on December 5, 1936. She was baptized on December 26, 1936, at St. Gertrude Church in Grantfork, Ill. and named Mary Louise. She grew up in the small rural town with two brothers and one sister.

Mary Louise attended Alhambra Public elementary school and went to catechism classes on Saturdays at Sacred Heart parish in Livingston, Ill. Following her older siblings, she enrolled at St. Paul High School in Highland, Ill. where she met the School Sisters of Notre Dame. She completed high school in three years and received the candidate's bonnet at St. Paul's Church, Highland, on June 12, 1953, the feast of the Sacred Heart. After a year in the candidature, she was received into the novitiate on July 31, 1954, and given the name Anne Miriam. She professed first vows on August 1, 1955, and final vows on August 1, 1961.

Sister Anne Miriam taught chemistry, math and religion to high school students for 23 years at Quincy Notre Dame, Quincy, Ill.; Rosary High School, St. Louis, Mo.; Mater Dei High School, Breese, Ill., and Duchesne High School, St. Charles, Mo. During this time she had obtained a Master's degree in chemistry from the University of Oklahoma – Norman in 1966, funded by a National Science Foundation grant. While teaching in St. Charles, she was certified as a chemist for the St. Charles County Narcotics Squad, worked with the youth crisis organization and was a volunteer probation officer.

Sister Anne Miriam was local leader for the retired sisters at Villa Gesu for two years before she began a new career. She pursued a year of study in the accelerated option program in nursing at St. Louis University and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing in 1983. She had volunteered in Honduras for two summers prior to her time of study. After passing the state boards, she began working in a public health clinic, *Clinica Las Mercedes*, and visiting the sick and elderly in El Progreso, Honduras. In 1986, she moved to a rural mountain parish, Immaculate Conception in Sulaco, a parish that covers 70 villages spread out over the mountains. She assisted in training women in health care and preventive medicine for seven years. Following a short sabbatical, she returned to another village, San Antonio, for two years. She trained women to manage first aid stations with some basic medicines. She founded a preventive medicine program working through the native women by teaching them how to provide health care for themselves and their neighbors. She also trained catechists and functioned as a pastoral minister.

After 12 years in Honduras, she was asked by the congregation to consider ministering in Bandipur, Nepal. She taught in Notre Dame Elementary School for two years and then educated women in health care for one year. She lived with four Japanese SSNDs during this time.

continued

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**School Sisters
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Central Pacific Province

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THROUGH EDUCATION

Returning to the United States, she sought ministry on the US/Mexico border. She was a pastoral minister/chaplain at Starr County Memorial Hospital in Rio Grande City, Texas and ministered with the *Comunidades Eclesiales de Base* at Immaculate Conception parish in Rio Grande City. She was one of the on-site coordinators for several Global Connections programs in which SSND participants experienced the life and saw the poverty of the people of Rio Grande City and the Mexican people living across the border.

After seven years in Rio Grande City, Sister Anne Miriam became a volunteer nurse educator at the Migrant Whole Health Outreach in Kennett, Mo. During the year, her memory began to fail her and she was missioned to the St. Louis motherhouse in September 2010 for community service.

At the conclusion of a reunion of her profession class, Sister Anne Miriam fell and broke her upper arm. Several days later, she was admitted to St. Clare Hospital in Fenton, Mo. with pneumonia and later moved to ICU. She peacefully gave her life to God on July 2, 2012, as five sisters kept vigil with her.

A wake/vigil was held at Theresa Center on July 5, 2012. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated the following morning with Rev. Ron Chochol presiding. Survivors include a brother, Robert of Alhambra, Ill. and a sister, Phyllis Dickman of Belleville, Ill. Nieces, nephews, other relatives, friends and SSNDs attended the funeral services. Burial was in the Ripa cemetery.

Sister Anne Miriam was an excellent educator in and out of the classroom. A prayerful woman, she had a deep love for Our Lady. She appreciated God's beauty in nature and in diverse cultures. In all her assignments, she provided loving and compassionate service, was a leader and catalyst for reminding others that they were also missionaries. Inspired by God, her spirit of adventure led her to diverse countries and cultures. She stated that being and living in the mountain villages of Honduras and Nepal was the most profound part of her faith development as she accompanied the poor in their struggle to reach their full potential. She was a living example of the SSND charism of internationality and ministering to the poor, women and children. May the God of the poor welcome her home and grant her fullness of life!

By Sister Carol Marie Wildt, SSND