



Birth
March 5, 1950

Baptism
March 19, 1950

Professed
July 29, 1971

Death
September 26, 2014

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

In Loving Memory

Sister Kathryn Hoener, SSND

Sister Kathryn concluded her updated autobiography with the statement: “At this point in my life, I know it’s time for a change. I don’t know what that change will be, but know that once again God will provide me with the opportunity for growth.” In deep trust and faith, she quoted the words of our foundress, Blessed Theresa of Jesus: “God has helped wondrously until now and God will not abandon us in the future.” [Letter #5032]. This was Sister Kathryn’s conviction as she looked forward to a sabbatical to deepen her spiritual life. However, the growth she anticipated would take a radical turn. In mid-August 2014, she underwent tests and was diagnosed with a recurrence of cancer that was terminal. She was air-lifted from the Dallas Methodist Medical Center to Anna House on September 2, 2014, and was placed in hospice care. For several weeks, she had the opportunity to tell her family and friends goodbye and to prepare her funeral liturgy. She met her God face-to-face at 9:25 a.m. on September 26, 2014.

Kathryn was the fourth of six girls born to Virginia [Heine] and Roy Hoener in Quincy, Ill., on March 5, 1950. She was baptized at St. Mary’s in Quincy on the feast of St. Joseph, March 19, and named Kathryn Margaret. She attended kindergarten at Irving School, elementary grades at St. Mary’s Grade School and graduated from Notre Dame of Quincy.

The thought of entering religious life came to her during grade school and was confirmed during her high school years. As she witnessed the Christian lives of her mother, a Catholic, and her father, an elder in the United Church of Christ, Kathryn realized that she also wanted to dedicate her life to Christ. Through her contact with the School Sisters of Notre Dame in high school, she felt called to live out her dedication to Christ as a member of their congregation.

Kathryn entered the candidature at Sancta Maria in Ripa on August 22, 1968. She was received as a novice in 1969. She made promises on July 29, 1971, and professed final vows on November 4, 1978, at St. Aloysius Gonzaga in St. Louis. For her final vow program, she chose the motto of Blessed Theresa: “All the works of God proceed slowly and in pain, but then their roots are the sturdier and their flowering the lovelier.” This motto would guide her life as a School Sister of Notre Dame.

Sister Kathryn was awarded a bachelor’s degree in mathematics from Notre Dame College, St. Louis in 1972, and a master’s degree in elementary administration from Clarke College, Dubuque, Iowa in 1984.

During her 43 years as a School Sister of Notre Dame, Sister Kathryn taught math and religion to elementary children at St. Gabriel, Compton Heights Catholic School and St. Aloysius Gonzaga in St. Louis; St. Dominic, Breese, Ill.; St. George, Herman, Mo.; St. Pius X, Moberly, Mo. She was principal at St. Teresa, Belleville, Ill., for nine years. While in her early 40s, and during her last year at St. Teresa’s, she had a radical mastectomy on the first day of school because of breast cancer. The support of family and friends helped her to come through this health crisis.

continued

In Loving Memory



Sister Kathryn Hoener



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**School Sisters
of Notre Dame**
Central Pacific Province

TRANSFORMING THE WORLD
THROUGH EDUCATION

In 1996, she was appointed director of Notre Dame Preschool at the motherhouse. After 10 years, she transitioned to a new role as secretary to the provincial leader in Dallas. This was not only a change in career but also involved a move to an area with a different culture and one that is known for its diversity. With the merger of the four provinces to form the Central Pacific Province in 2011, she became the executive administrative assistant to the Provincial Council in Dallas.

Sister Kathryn cherished her family and friends and looked forward to sharing visits with them. She was a kind, fun-loving and generous person. Her creative abilities were shown in the counted cross-stitched pieces and the many hand-stamped greeting cards that she designed.

One of her goals in life was “to instill in young people that they are valuable, worthwhile people who are loved by God.” She encouraged them to achieve their goals and to be proud of themselves. She dearly loved children and was an excellent educator and administrator. As administrative assistant, she acquired new skills while perfecting her gift of organization and completing a project.

A wake/vigil was held at Anna House and Theresa Center September 30, 2014. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated the following morning with a family friend, Rev. Joseph Zimmerman, OFM, presiding. Many of her relatives, her classmates, friends and SSNDs attended the funeral services. Burial was in the Sancta Maria in Ripa cemetery.

Sister Kathryn is survived by her sisters, Barbara Strieker and Teresa (Gary) Weiman, both of Quincy, Ill.; Martha (Joel) Hartman of Orlando, Fla., and Mary (Bill) Bauer of Arlington Heights, Ill.; brother-in-law Wendel Craft of Peoria, Ill.; 20 nieces and nephews; great nieces and nephews and a great-great nephew. She was preceded in death by her parents; her sister Patricia Craft, her brother-in-law Thomas Strieker and great-nephew Ethan Weiman.

May her eternal life bring unimaginable happiness and peace as she experiences the reward of her trust and faith in a provident God!

By Sister Carol Marie Wildt, SSND