

2016 Jubilee



First Profession
August 3, 1956

Marie Williams, SSND

60 Years

Sister Marie worked in elementary and junior high school from 1956 until 1998, serving in the roles of teacher, religion coordinator and math coordinator in Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas. She was also principal in Thibodaux, Louisiana, and Gainesville, Texas. She lived in community with her sister, Sister Floretta, from 1986 to 1998, caring for aging and ill parents while continuing work in schools. Sister Marie then taught in the GED Program for 14 years before beginning her current ministry of serving the community at St. Mary of the Pines in Chatawa, Mississippi. She earned a bachelor's in English and theology from the former Notre Dame College in St. Louis and a master's in elementary education from North Texas State University in Denton, Texas.

A memory I would like to share...

I lived in community with my blood sister. As vowed sisters, we ministered wherever we were sent, seldom in the same state, but we were happy. In 1986, we requested permission from the Council to live together because of our father's declining health and our mother not being able to cope alone. Emotionally, spiritually and physically, they needed help. The Council gave us permission if we could find appropriate ministries. We did so, and for 13 years, we lived together, taught in schools and ministered to the needs of our parents. Upon their deaths, we told Council we could now go wherever they saw the need. We were in different communities again.

As I reflect back on my life as an SSND, this time was not one of blissful happiness; there was too much stress, sleepless nights, vigils and sorrow. However, I will always be grateful that I was there for my parents to the very end. Without my sister, it would not have been possible. I also came to know her as an adult, to appreciate her many gifts and to love her for who she is. This period of my life was a gift and I thank God and SSND for it.

-formerly S. Walter Marie