



Birth
October 20, 1922

Baptism
October 22, 1922

First Profession
July 22, 1944

Death
November 14, 2012

Burial
Our Lady of Good
Counsel Cemetery
Mankato, Minnesota

*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 M. Julene Boeckman, SSND

Sister M. Julene Boeckman, 90, died Wednesday, November 14, 2012, in Notre Dame Health Care Center, Our Lady of Good Counsel Campus, Mankato, Minnesota. Just over three weeks ago, Notre Dame Health Care sisters gathered for a quiet celebration of her birthday. Within the past week, her condition showed a marked decline, and sisters began keeping vigil with her.

Sister Julene was born October 20, 1922, near Jordan, Minnesota, and baptized Monica Gertrude two days later at St. John the Baptist Church in Jordan. Monica was the fifth child and third girl in a family that would eventually number nine children. At the age of seven, she enrolled in first grade at St. John the Baptist School, taught by the School Sisters of Notre Dame. Because she was seven, she was allowed to make her First Holy Communion as a first grader. She wrote, "One of my big requests of Jesus that day was to make me a sister, because they were always happy and could go to church every day."

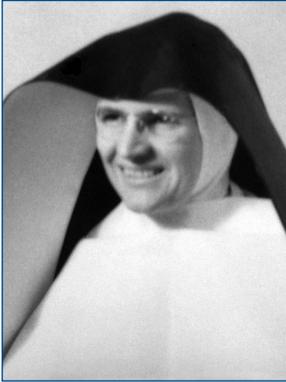
Sister Julene's vocation story continued when she was in seventh grade: "In the classroom, there was a picture on the wall of a girl called to the religious life. The picture inspired me with a new motive, that of doing something for Christ. After Sister talked to us about the picture, I confided to her that I wanted to be a sister." About the time of her confirmation in April 1937, Monica had definitely decided to be a sister, but did not know what to do. She wrote, "Then a letter came from Good Counsel with the leaflet, 'Think It Over.' That summer I got in touch with several Jordan girls attending the aspiranture. It was their good example and genuine enthusiasm that completely convinced me." She entered the aspiranture in September, spent the next four years at Good Counsel Academy, and graduated in 1941. During her senior year, she began formal piano and organ lessons, building on basic piano skills taught to her by an older sister.

In September 1941, Monica entered the candidature in Mankato. After one year of college classes and music lessons, she taught second grade at SS. Peter and Paul School, Mankato. She was received into the novitiate in July 1943 and given the name Sister Julene, a derivative of her mother's name. Her father commented, "Now I have my Julia back."

After her profession in 1944, Sister Julene's first teaching assignment was grades three, four and five at All Saints, Madison Lake. She also taught 15 piano students. After four years at All Saints, Sister Julene moved to St. Michael School, St. Michael, Minnesota. For the next 45 years, she taught elementary and junior high grades, was principal at several schools, and often was the parish musician besides. In Minnesota, she served at St. Agnes, St. Paul; St. Francis, Buffalo; St. John, Mankato; St. Casimir, Wells; St. Mathias, Wanda, St. Anne, Wabasso; St. Martin, Rogers; St. John the Baptist, Savage; and St. Mary and Holy Spirit, St. Cloud. She also taught and/or was principal at St. Mary, New England, North Dakota, and Immaculate Conception, Gilbertville, Iowa. She earned a bachelor of arts

continued

In Loving Memory



Sister M. Julene Boeckman



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

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THROUGH EDUCATION

degree from Mount Mary College, Milwaukee in 1955 and a master of arts degree in instructional improvement from the College of St. Thomas, Saint Paul, Minn. in 1967.

Sister Julene's final teaching position was at St. Martin, Rogers. At the conclusion of her service there in 1993, she was featured in an extensive article in the local paper. She commented, "I always enjoyed teaching religion. Sometimes I think I learned more from the students. I could look into their faces and see they were with God. It's just a thrill." The article also mentioned that Sister Julene worked with the choir at St. Martin and contributed significantly to the school's music program which included teaching fourth graders to play recorders.

In 1993, Sister Julene came to Good Counsel, where her two main ministries until 2005 were tutoring in the Good Counsel Learning Center and playing the organ for liturgical services. She practiced diligently, something she really enjoyed. With her musical background, she especially appreciated the works of Haydn, Chopin, Beethoven, Bach and Mozart. She also enjoyed reading and working with words, concentrating especially on crossword puzzles and cryptograms. Her family was very important to her, and she appreciated visits from family members.

As a resident of Notre Dame Health Care, Sister Julene was an enthusiastic participant in the many activities offered. Her final words in the article aptly described her prayer and her life: "As the years have gone on, God has become more real to me. He is within me. I can talk to Him. He speaks to me in daily events. I don't know how many years I have left, but I don't worry about it. I know there is a wonderful place for me with a loving God and loving people."

May the merciful and gracious God, whom Sister Julene served so faithfully for 90 years, 68 of them as a School Sister of Notre Dame, now welcome her to that "wonderful place" with steadfast love!

The funeral Mass for Sister Julene, with Father Andrew Olsem as presider, was held Monday, November 19, in Good Counsel Chapel. She is survived by her sister Delores Stocker, her brother Mark (Evelyn), her brother-in-law, Joe Barlage, nieces and nephews and their families, and her sisters in community, the School Sisters of Notre Dame. She was preceded in death by her parents, Henry and Julia (Hoffmann) Boeckman, her sisters Clothilda Burmeister, Margaret Mike and Alice Barlage, and her brothers Leonard, Lawrence and Raymond.

By Sister Mary Kay Ash, SSND