



Birth
February 15, 1926

Baptism
February 28, 1926

Profession
August 3, 1949

Death
September 18, 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 Veronica Marie Komorowski, SSND

On February 15, 1926, the 13th of 14 children was born to Veronica [Strump] and Henry Komorowski. The baby was born at home in St. Louis, Mo. She was baptized at St. Liborius Church and named Lorraine. There were six boys and eight girls in the family. However, three of the older girls died before they reached their teen years and Lorraine never knew them. In 1931, her father died. Lorraine was five years old. Her father's death, in the midst of the Depression, left her mother to care for eleven children, ranging in age from 3 to 24 years.

Lorraine attended St. Liborius Grade School where she was taught by the School Sisters of Notre Dame. After graduation from grade school, she remained at home for six years helping her mother with the household chores. She was also employed at Woolworth's as a sales clerk and worked in a tie factory making men's ties. Four of her brothers were called for military service during World War II.

During these years, she became more deeply aware of her desire to become a School Sister of Notre Dame. She confided in her pastor, knowing that her mother would object to her entrance into religious life. When her brothers returned from the service, she told her mother of her desire. With the support of her pastor and one of her brothers, she entered the candidature at Sancta Maria in Ripa on May 1, 1946.

As a candidate, Lorraine began her secondary education at Notre Dame High School. She was received into the novitiate on August 2, 1948. She was given the name Veronica Marie in honor of her mother who had become reconciled to the idea of her youngest daughter being a sister. She pronounced first vows on August 3, 1949, and final vows on August 3, 1955.

Sister Veronica Marie was awarded a bachelor's degree in English from Notre Dame College, St. Louis in 1959, and a master's degree in elementary administration from St. Louis University in 1967.

Following profession, Sister Veronica Marie was missioned to St. Joseph, Holtville, Calif., as a member of the second group of sisters sent to Holtville. After seven years in California, she returned to the Midwest and taught children in the junior high grades. In Missouri, she taught at St. Raphael and St. Engelbert in St. Louis; St. Peter Grade School, Jefferson City; St. Gertrude, Krakow; St. Charles Borromeo and St. Elizabeth Ann and St. Robert, St. Charles. She was also principal at St. Gertrude's for one year. In Illinois, she taught at St. Philip, East St. Louis and St. Mary, Belleville. After 36 years in elementary education, she was appointed the maintenance supervisor at the St. Louis motherhouse. She was in this position for seven years. She gave community service in various ways during the following 20 years she lived at the motherhouse.

Due to her health condition, she was missioned to Veronica House in January 2012, and to Anna House in April 2013. On September 16, 2014,

continued

In Loving Memory



*Sister Veronica Marie
Komorowski*



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she suffered a stroke and was placed in hospice care. Two days later, she died peacefully at Anna House as sisters kept vigil and prayed with her.

A wake/vigil was held at The Sarah Community and Theresa Center on September 23, 2014. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated the following morning with Rev. Edmond Fitzgibbon presiding. Burial was in the Ripa cemetery. Family members, classmates, friends and SSNDs attended the funeral services.

She is survived by her brother Norbert Komorowski, nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, her sisters: Rose, Vera, Margaret, Geneva, Helen Radmoski, Florence Winka and Berenice Forman; and her brothers: Lawrence, Robert, Clement, Andrew and James.

Sister Veronica Marie was a kind person who had a welcoming smile and a listening heart. She had a great devotion to Our Lady and in recent years embarked upon a deeper spiritual life with an emphasis on centering prayer. At Anna House, she would often sit in contemplative attention as she viewed the change of seasons or watched the arrival of visitors from her bedroom window.

She cherished her family and her SSND friends and eagerly looked forward to gatherings or simple visits with them. She would cut out newspaper articles or cartoons to share with family members or with friends who were at a distance. Her years of community service were evidence of her deep commitment to God and others. She loved to give of herself by helping out in whatever ways she was needed. She was an avid sports fan and closely followed the St. Louis Cardinals and the University of Notre Dame football team.

May Sister Veronica Marie now rejoice with family members who have gone before her as she enters into the peace and happiness of eternal life!

By Sister Carol Marie Wildt, SSND