



Birth
April 28, 1938

Baptism
May 8, 1938

Profession
July 31, 1958

Death
February 12, 2021

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 Deanne (Richard Maureen) Stratmann

The oldest of three children was born to Priscilla (Marxer) and Richard Stratmann on April 28, 1938, in Millstadt, Illinois. She was baptized at St. James Church on May 8, 1938, and named Deanne Priscilla. During the following years, her sister Maureen and brother Richard would complete the family.

An ambitious child, Deanne often joined the neighborhood boys in many sports games. She also enjoyed helping her father in the store which he managed. She received her elementary education at St. James Grade School in Millstadt and then attended the Academy of Notre Dame in Belleville, Illinois. At the Academy, she was a member of the Sodality, officer for band and the Girls Athletic Associations, member of the Varsity basketball team and assistant circulation manager of the school paper. Her contact with the School Sisters of Notre Dame during these years and a day of recollection at the motherhouse at Sancta Maria in Ripa, St. Louis, fostered a desire within her to join the community.

Deanne received the bonnet of a candidate at her home parish on August 29, 1956. She was received into the novitiate on July 30, 1957, and given the name Richard Maureen in honor of her father. She professed first vows on July 31, 1958, and final vows on July 31, 1964. She later returned to her baptismal name.

Sister Deanne ministered in Catholic education for over forty years. She taught at St. Peter Grade School, Jefferson City, Missouri; St. Mary, Belleville, Illinois; St. Aloysius, St. Louis, Missouri. She was principal at St. Stephen, Caseyville, Illinois. For two years, she was the coordinator of the Education Council for the former St. Louis Province. This was followed by serving a five year term as an associate superintendent of schools for the diocese of Belleville, Illinois. In this role, she was also director of Childhood Education. In the 1980s, she was principal at St. Marianne, Pico Rivera, California, and taught at St. Rita, San Diego, California.

Returning to the Midwest, Sister Deanne was principal at St. Peter Cathedral, Belleville, Illinois, for 10 years. In 2000, she became development director for St. Thea Bowman Catholic School in East St. Louis and Holy Rosary School in Fairmount City, Illinois. In 2006, she was appointed director of Notre Dame Tutorial/Learning Center at Ripa. With the closure of the Center, she ministered as a driver at the Ripa complex and gave volunteer service. In 2017, after rehab for a stroke, she was missioned to Anna House, the Sarah Community, in Bridgeton, Missouri. She passed away peacefully in the early afternoon of February 12, 2021 at Anna House.

Due to the cold and snowy weather conditions, the graveside service was held in Theresa Center auditorium on February 19, 2021. Relatives who attended the service were her brother Richard, her sister Maureen, her sister-in-law Louise, nieces and nephews. Classmates and community members were also present. She was buried in the Sancta Maria in Ripa cemetery. A memorial Mass will be celebrated at a future date.

Sister Deanne was preceded in death by her parents. She is survived by her

continued

In Loving Memory



brother Richard (Louise) Stratmann and sister Maureen Hobbs of Nashville, Illinois; other relatives, colleagues, friends and sisters in community.

Sister Deanne was an outdoors person who greatly enjoyed fishing, golfing, camping and hiking. She was an avid St. Louis Cardinals fan. She loved music and played a tuba in her earlier years. During her ministry in the Belleville diocesan office, she was praised for the “spirit of cooperation and unity growing in the Department of Childhood Education under (her) direction.” In her ministry as development director, she applied for numerous successful grants, published newsletters and conducted annual appeals. Freed from the limitations of the last years, may Sister Deanne now rejoice in God’s loving care

By Sister Carol Marie Willt, SSND



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