



**Birth**  
August 25, 1932

**Baptism**  
December 27, 1932

**Profession**  
July 18, 1952

**Death**  
March 26, 2020

**Burial**  
Notre Dame of Elm Grove  
Cemetery,  
Elm Grove, Wisconsin

*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 Elizabeth Marie Hoell

Sister Elizabeth Marie (known later as Sister Liz) was the last of four children adopted by John and Lillian Hoell. She was born as Margaret Mary Hoell in 1932 in Green Bay, Wisconsin. Her brother Arthur, later Father Art, was 12 years older, Mary Ruth was eight years older and mother of four children, and Edward was three years older and never married.

The family enjoyed fishing and swimming along with boat trips. They owned a cottage which brought enjoyable times and family reunions for many years. The family were devoted Catholics, including going to Sunday Vespers.

Even though Elizabeth had thoughts of becoming a sister since first grade, she did not enter until 1947, after her freshman year of high school which was at St. Joseph's Academy in Green Bay, Wisconsin. She was professed in 1952.

Sister Liz did not know that she was adopted until age 26. When a sister who was at the parish at the time told her that she was adopted, she was stunned. After learning the facts from her adoptive parents, Sister Liz made the decision to do nothing to look for her birth mother until after her parents were with God.

Sister Liz was 48 when she began her search. She met her mother and five half-siblings and they formed a relationship that lasted until her mother's death 14 years later. Sister Liz was privileged to be with her mother for two weeks before she died. She believed that we need to heal one another with love and understanding.

For twenty years, Sister Liz served as a musician and teacher at parishes in Gary, Indiana; Marshfield, Milwaukee, Green Bay, Madison, and Butler, Wisconsin. After twenty years, she was called by the community to work in formation. She studied the Scriptures and theology and earned a Master of Arts in Christian Spirituality. Sister Liz was postulant director for five years and 13 years in seminary formation. Her work in formation also included acting as spiritual and retreat director, School Sisters of Notre Dame leadership, and pastoral care. This included ministry in Saginaw, Michigan, at Queen of Angels Retreat House and in Wisconsin at the former Motherhouse, Mequon; St. Francis de Sales College and Seminary, Milwaukee; Sacred Heart School of Theology, Hales Corners; Notre Dame of Elm Grove, Elm Grove; and in Talofofo, Guam, at Notre Dame Regional House.

When she went to live in retirement at Notre Dame of Elm Grove, Sister Liz still did spiritual direction and offered the Retreat in Everyday Life (The 19th Annotation of St. Ignatius) to our sisters. She entered eternal life on March 26, 2020. She is survived by nieces and nephews.

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# *In Loving Memory*

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Sister Elizabeth Marie sums up her life with these words: “What a rich heritage I have received from our gracious God through the people God has called to give me birth and nourish me throughout my entire life. Who could not respond to such a lover?”

In her own words again, based on the Magnificat: “God has looked on every fiber of my being and called it good. God’s warmth envelops me. I cannot help but sing God’s praise.”

*By Sister Marie Rose Van Deurzen, SSND*

*Sister Carla Rose Scheider*

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*Central Pacific Province*

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