

In Loving Memory

Sister Mary Gerold Mobley

Sister Mary Gerold Mobley, SSND, 94, passed away peacefully at Anna House, The Sarah Community, Bridgeton, Missouri, on March 4, 2023.

Judith Ann was the second daughter was born to Elizabeth (Stagman) and Gerold Mobley on March 1, 1929, in Alexandria, Indiana. She was baptized at St. Mary's Church on March 10, 1929. Her sister, Geraldine, was 12 years older and graduated from high school when Judith started grade school. Her parents owned the theatre in Alexandria and Judith became a movie fan at an early age.

Judith attended St. Mary's Catholic School, Alexandria, for her elementary education and was taught by the School Sisters of Notre Dame (SSND). She attended Alexandria Public High School and was active in band and on the basketball and softball teams. Although she wanted to enter SSND, she was advised to wait. She attended Ball State Teachers College in Muncie, Indiana, for one year and then transferred to LeClerc College in Belleville, Illinois. Here she met the SSND from the former St. Louis Province. With the closing of LeClerc College, she transferred to Mount Mary College (now University) in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

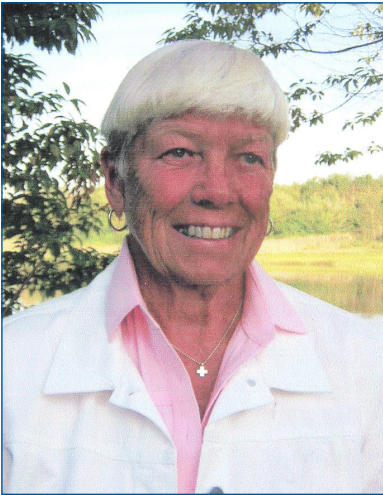
After one year in Milwaukee and at the age of 21, Judith returned to St. Louis, and entered the candidature at Sancta Maria in Ripa on August 31, 1950. She was received into the novitiate on July 30, 1951, and named Mary Gerold, in honor of her father. She professed first vows on August 1, 1952, and final vows on August 1, 1958.

Following profession, Sister Mary Gerold taught fourth grade at St. Raphael, St. Louis, for two years. During this time, she completed her college education and in 1953, receiving a bachelor's degree in art from Webster College (now University) in St. Louis. From 1954 to 1982, she taught art and graphic design at Rosati-Kain High School in St. Louis. Beginning in 1970, she team-taught with Sister Marie Vincent Brothers, SSND.

She received a master's degree in secondary education administration from St. Louis University in 1958, and a master's degree in art from the University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana in 1963.

In 1981, Sister Mary Gerold and Sister Marie Vincent began to teach children's art classes at Kennebunk Beach Improvement Association, Kennebunkport, Maine, in a summer enrichment program. After a year of study at the School of Visual Arts in New York, they continued their careers in graphic design and art at the College of Notre Dame in Baltimore, Maryland (now Notre Dame of Maryland University). They also served as resident directors in one of the residential halls. Sister Mary Gerold taught art education, did graphic design for the college, designed greeting cards, formed the Gerold and Vincent Designs studio and taught adults rubber stamping and silk screening. In 2008, they were honored for their 25 years at the college and their 27 years of summer

continued



Birth
March 1, 1929

Baptism
March 10, 1929

Profession
August 1, 1952

Death
March 4, 2023

Burial
Sancta Maria in Ripa
Cemetery

*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

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*Sister Mary Gerold
Mobley*



instruction at Kennebunkport, Maine.

In 2011, Sister Mary Gerold was missioned to Villa Assumpta, Baltimore, where she did volunteer service. She came to Sancta Maria in Ripa, St. Louis, in 2014. For one year, she volunteered in the art department at Notre Dame High School in St. Louis. With her friend, Sister Carol Brouillette, CSJ, she visited nursing homes and retirement centers and entertained the residents. Sister Carol played the harp and Sister Mary Gerold played the recorder.

Sister Mary Gerold experienced memory loss which necessitated her move to St. Louis Altenheim in 2017. A fall in October 2018, resulted in a fractured hip and surgery and she was transferred to Anna House, Bridgeton, Missouri. She passed away peacefully at Anna House around 9:15 a.m. on March 4, 2023, three days after her 94th birthday. She chose to be cremated.

Numerous newspaper articles attest to Sister Mary Gerold's artistic and creative gifts. She inspired her students to see the world with new eyes and to find beauty in unexpected ways. She loved the warmth of the sun and reflected on the words of Blessed Theresa, "The sun is the light of the world, shining kindly and quietly, it warms so benignly; it is so rich in blessing." (#29) On even the hottest days of the summer, she enjoyed sitting in the sun and greeting visitors or sisters returning to Sancta Maria in Ripa from the rocking chair at the gazebo. Her cheerful and gracious manner reflected her deep love of God and God's creation. She wrote, "Having spent my SSND years in the study of the arts with students seems a grace-filled preview of God's promise of beauty to each of us for all eternity." May she now rejoice in beholding the beauty of her new life with God.

A prayer service was held at The Sarah Community on March 27, 2023. Memorial services were held on March 29, 2023, at Sancta Maria in Ripa, St. Louis. The reading of her biography and sharing of memories preceded the memorial Mass with Rev. John Eaton, OFM, as presider. In attendance were cousins from Indiana, former students from Rosati-Kain High School, Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, friends, SSND and SSND associates. Burial of cremains was in the Sancta Maria in Ripa cemetery. Sister Mary Gerold was preceded in death by her parents and her sister, Geraldine Hasty. She is survived by relatives, friends, classmates, SSND and SSND associates.

By Sister Carol Marie Wildt, SSND

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