

# *In Loving Memory*

## Sister Helene Marie Robin



Birth  
February 9, 1939

Baptism  
March 4, 1945

Profession  
July 29, 1960

Death  
August 25, 2023

Burial  
Chatawa 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

Sister Helene Marie Robin passed away peacefully at Trinity Trace Community Care Center in Covington, Louisiana, August 25, 2023. A profession classmate was keeping vigil with her at the time of her going home to God.

The oldest of 12 children was born to Helen (Smith) and Samuel Robin Feb. 9, 1939, in Brookhaven, Mississippi. She was given the name Sammie Evelyn after her father and aunt. The family of seven boys and five girls were a very close-knit family. When she was six years old, Evelyn was baptized on March 4, 1945, at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Brookhaven.

Evelyn attended St. Francis of Assisi Parochial School which was staffed by the School Sisters of Notre Dame (SSND). Inspired by the sisters, she requested to enter the Aspiranture at Sancta Maria in Ripa in St. Louis, Missouri. When an Aspiranture opened at St. Mary of the Pines, Chatawa, Mississippi, the following year, she returned to the South and completed her secondary education at St. Mary of the Pines.

Evelyn received the candidate's veil at her home parish Aug. 27, 1957. This was a great occasion for the family and the parish as she was the first one from Brookhaven to enter the SSND candidature. The following morning, she left for Sancta Maria in Ripa in St. Louis. After three months, she was called home to assist the family as her mother had given birth to her eighth child. As Evelyn left, she told Sister Georgianne Segner, the Candidate Directress, that she would return the following year with her younger sister, Bertha.

On August 24, 1958, she again received the candidate's veil. The ceremony was held for Evelyn and her sister, Bertha Lee, at the SSND convent in Brookhaven with family and close relatives in attendance. Evelyn was received into the novitiate on July 28, 1959, and given the name Helene Marie, in honor of her mother. She professed first vows on July 29, 1960, and final vows on July 25, 1966, in Dallas, Texas.

Sister Helene Marie received a bachelor's degree in art from the former Notre Dame College, St. Louis, Missouri, in 1962 and a master's degree in elementary education from Incarnate Word College, San Antonio, Texas, in 1977. She was also certified as a reading specialist.

In 1962, Sister Helene Marie began her ministry of 40 years in elementary education; 22 of these years as a primary teacher. In Louisiana, she taught at St. Gabriel, New Orleans; St. Philip Neri, Metairie; Redemptorist, Crowley; Visitation of Our Lady, Marrero; Our Lady of Prompt Succor, Chalmette; Immaculate Conception and St. Margaret of Scotland, Lake Charles. In Mississippi, she taught at Immaculate Conception, Laurel; St. Therese, Jackson; and St. Alphonsus, McComb. In addition to teaching, she was a volleyball and basketball coach, belonged to the Archdiocesan Band of New

*continued*

# In Loving Memory



*Sister Helene Marie  
Robin*

Orleans and was a 4-H Leader.

In 2002, Sister Helene Marie performed community service at St. Mary of the Pines, Chatawa, Mississippi. The following year, she began a new ministry in Pastoral Care at Wynhoven Health Care Center in Marrero, Louisiana. She spent nine years ministering and caring for the elderly at this facility. She returned to St. Mary of the Pines, for a short rest and then once again performed community service as a driver, running the gift shop, creating items for the gift shop, shopping for the sisters and many other services. In 2019, she moved with the other sisters at St. Mary of the Pines to St. Anthony's Gardens, Covington, Louisiana. She continued to minister in community service.

Visitation, reading of biography and sharing of memories preceded the celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 5, 2023, at Most Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Covington, Louisiana. Rev. Rodney Bourg officiated. The burial was in the Chatawa Cemetery, Chatawa, Mississippi.

Sister Helene Marie is survived by her sisters, Bertha Lee Robin, Mary (Chester) Foster, Helen (William) Chalmers, Teresa Rose Bell; and her brothers: Joseph, Samuel, Thomas, John and Charles. She was preceded in death by her parents and her brothers, Johnny and Louis.

Sister Helene Marie was a highly creative teacher and wonderful community member. She wished what was best for her students and did all she could to provide for them. She loved art, nature, music and movies. She saw beauty in everything and reflected this in her life. She was deeply devoted to her family and would help and assist them whenever possible. In her ministry at Wynhoven, she gave loving and compassionate care to the elderly and ill residents. In her own last illness, she never complained but graciously thanked those who cared for her. May she now rejoice in beholding the beauty of her loving God as she enters eternal life.

*By Carol Marie Wildt, SSND*

To make a memorial gift,  
please visit our secure  
online donation page  
[www.ssndcentralpacific.org/donate](http://www.ssndcentralpacific.org/donate)



Transforming the world  
through education