



In Loving Memory

Sister Maricé Elvekrog

Sister Maricé Elvekrog, 84, died peacefully at 6:09 a.m. on August 19, 2022, in Notre Dame Health Care, Our Lady of Good Counsel, Mankato, Minnesota. Sisters were praying with her in the days before her death. Due to a serious illness, Sister Maricé had moved from Cambridge, Minnesota, to Notre Dame Health Care in August 2021.

On November 15, 1937, Sister Maricé was born in Ebenezer Hospital in Madison, Minnesota. On November 28, 1937, she was baptized at St. Michael Church, in Madison, Minnesota, and given the name Dorothy Marie. Her father, Olaf Elvekrog, was born in Norway. As a young man, Olaf came to the United States where he met and married her mother, Margaret Albrecht, in 1935. They named their first child and Dorothy Marie's older brother, Maurice.

In her autobiography, Dorothy wrote that "at the age of 'almost five,' Dad took his 'big girl' to Madison Public School for kindergarten." The next year, she began attending St. Michael Catholic School where her teachers were School Sisters of Notre Dame (SSND). She made her First Holy Communion in 1944, but soon after, her father became seriously ill and asked to be baptized and receive his First Holy Communion. He died of cancer in March 1945. Dorothy said, "After things settled down, Mom took a daytime job, Maurice became the 'head of the house' and I was given the office of 'chief cook and bottle washer.'"

Following her father's death, her mother married Richard Bofferding. After graduating from the eighth grade at St. Michael Catholic School, Dorothy attended Good Counsel Academy in Mankato, Minnesota, where she was an aspirant for four years. She entered the SSND candidature in 1955, to prepare for her life as a School Sister of Notre Dame.

On July 16, 1956, Dorothy was received into the congregation and given the name, Sister Maricé, which was taken after her brother. She professed her religious vows on July 17, 1957.

Sister Maricé then continued her undergraduate study at the College of St. Catherine (now St. Catherine University), in St. Paul, Minnesota, for one year before beginning 48 years of ministry in the field of education by teaching third grade at St. Agnes School in St. Paul (1958-1959). During the next 10 years, she taught elementary and/or junior high students at St. Clara in Clara City (1959-1962); St. John in Mankato (1962-1963); St. Michael in Morgan (1963-1965); St. Peter in Forest Lake (1965-1967); St. Mary in Shakopee (1967-1968); and St. Francis Xavier in Sartell (1968-1969); all in Minnesota. From 1969 until 1977, she taught at Don Bosco High School in Gilbertville, Iowa.

Sister Maricé graduated from Mount Mary College (now Mount Mary University) with a bachelor of science in chemistry and mathematics in 1968. She earned her master's degree in education from the University of Northern Iowa, in Cedar Falls, in 1976, and studied administration at the University of San Francisco during the following year. This was followed by service as assistant superintendent at Trinity High School in Dickinson, North Dakota (1977-1978); and John XXIII Middle School and Cathedral High School in St.

continued

Birth
November 15, 1937

Baptism
November 28, 1937

Profession
July 17, 1957

Death
August 19, 2022

Burial
Our Lady of Good Counsel
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

In Loving Memory



Sister Maricé Elvekrog



To make a memorial gift,
please visit our secure
online donation page
www.ssndcentralpacific.org/donate



School Sisters
of Notre Dame
Central Pacific Province

Transforming the world
through education

Cloud, Minnesota (1978-1981). She then became the principal at St. Mary's School in Alexandria, Minnesota (1981-1983).

Following a year of personal renewal, Sister Maricé was appointed Associate Director for School Instructional Services in the diocese of LaCrosse (1984-1986). Next, she served as principal at Blessed Sacrament School in Sioux City, Iowa (1986-1987). This was followed by her ministry in the Diocese of Joliet, Illinois, where she assumed the duties of assistant superintendent for teacher development (1987-1989) and associate superintendent of schools (1989-1993).

In 1993, Sister Maricé accepted the position of superintendent for Catholic schools in the Diocese of Alexandria, Louisiana (1993-2006). After Hurricane Katrina struck in 2005, the schools of this diocese, which is located approximately 200 miles northwest of New Orleans, took in 585 displaced students without asking for tuition, fees or required uniforms. In an article entitled "Lots of Love," Sister Maricé wrote, "Across the whole nation SSND, their families, their friends and the students they taught put into practice the gospel values that we have always taught. Aid poured in from all parts of the United States and even from Germany. Soon our displaced students had books, desks, uniforms and a lot of love. Students from other states wrote letters, sent homemade cards and raised money for the 'Katrina students.' Every donation to the Katrina student fund was directly traceable to a SSND connection."

In addition to professional educational organizations, Sister Maricé was also involved in the American Cancer Society, the Chamber of Commerce, county historical societies and parish councils. She was an avid reader and had a wide range of interests. Her excellent sewing and needlework skills were also used in designing and making liturgical vestments and costumes for local theatre groups. She enjoyed travel and was always eager to learn new things.

Upon the completion of her educational ministry in 2006, Sister Maricé moved to Cambridge, Minnesota, where she ministered in various capacities at Christ the King Parish until August 2021. She was known for her graciousness and kindness, especially toward those who were elderly or in need of assistance. On the 60th anniversary of her religious profession in 2017, Sister Maricé wrote, "God has been very good to me, and it has been my prayer and joy 'to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.'" Her prayer and joy are now fulfilled.

The funeral Mass for Sister Maricé was held on Monday, August 29, 2022, in the Our Lady of Good Counsel Chapel with Father Eugene Stenzel as presider. A prayer of remembrance preceded the funeral, and her cremains were buried in Our Lady of Good Counsel cemetery. She is survived by her brother and sister-in-law, Dr. Maurice and Jan Elvekrog, nieces and nephews, and her sisters in community, the School Sisters of Notre Dame and SSND associates. She was preceded in death by her parents, Olaf Elvekrog and Margaret (Albrecht) Bofferding.

By Sister Mary Ann Kuttner, SSND