



In Loving Memory

Sister Elva Wiesner

Agnes Wiesner was born September 15, 1926 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She was the sixth child of George Wiesner and Mary Johanna VanVonderen. She had two brothers and five sisters. She was baptized September 19, 1926 at St. Augustine in Bay View, Wisconsin.

Agnes attended St. Augustine Grade School and Mercy High School. She worked for the Milwaukee Journal for one year and then enrolled at Mount Mary College (now University) for one year. Agnes entered the School Sisters of Notre Dame at the former Milwaukee motherhouse on August 28, 1946. Agnes first thought of a religious vocation in eighth grade. She was received August 10, 1948, receiving the name of Sister Mary Elva. She was professed August 11, 1949.

Sister Elva spent the first 16 years teaching second grade at St. Patrick's in Peoria, Illinois. Sister was privileged to prepare the children and their families for First Holy Communion and Penance. When Sister Elva was transferred to Immaculate Heart of May Parish in West Allis, Wisconsin, and at St. Patrick Parish in Menasha, Wisconsin, she continued to teach second grade and worked with the sacramental program.

In her autobiography, Sister Elva wrote, "From 1981 to 1985 I spent four rewarding years with our sisters at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Mt. Calvary, Wisconsin, assisting with health care." Her next ministry was as an educator and coordinator of religious education/Liturgist and six years in volunteer ministry at All Saints in Logansport, Indiana. Sister enjoyed working with the children to prepare school liturgies.

After completing those years of ministry, Sister Elva moved to Notre Dame of Elm Grove, Elm Grove, Wisconsin, in 2002. Here she found herself volunteering to help with the gift shop and she would feel great pride when she could take cash over to the finance office, especially around Christmas time.

Her life was totally absorbed in other people; she was an empathatic person. When anyone came around, her face would light up. When she called your name, you knew you were valued.

She had an extraordinary love of family. If you know the Wiesners, you would know that having fun while dancing, singing, playing cards, going ice skating or swimming is part of the family DNA. Music, including being a dedicated choir member, was so much a part of her life. Both her parents belonged to the choir at church.

Sister Elva was a Green Bay Packers and Milwaukee Brewers Fan and watched the games right up until her death. Sister Elva was always so grateful for the care she received. Gentleness and peace are words to describe her by people who called her an angel.

She entered heaven with great joy on December 9th, 2020, age 94 years. Survived by her sister Teresa Lazon, nieces, nephews, cousins, friends and the

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Birth
September 15, 1926

Baptism
September 19, 1926

Profession
August 11, 1949

Death
December 9, 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

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SSND community. Preceded in death by her parents George and Johanna, her sisters Dorothy Janusz, Gertrude Behr, Catherine Wysocki and her brothers Edward and George. Private Funeral Mass and burial was held on Tuesday, December 15, 2020.

By Sister Marie Rose Van Duzey, SSND

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