



**Birth**

October 31, 1926

**Baptism**

September 29, 1934

**Profession**

July 30, 1947

**Death**

September 30, 2021

**Burial**

Sancta Maria in Ripa  
Cemetery, St. Louis, Missouri

*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 Regina Marie Grohman

Sister Regina Marie Grohman, 94, passed away at The Sarah Community – Anna House in Bridgeton, Missouri on September 30, 2021.

Mary Grace was born on October 31, 1926, in St. Louis. She was baptized on September 29, 1934, at St. Pius V Church in St. Louis. She attended St. Pius V Grade School, and during her eighth-grade year, she took a competitive exam and was awarded one of four scholarships to Notre Dame High School in St. Louis.

At Notre Dame High School, she met the School Sisters of Notre Dame and was attracted to them. With the help of Sister Elaine Schaefer, principal, and a teacher, Sister Mary Elbert Oelkers, she was accepted into the candidature.

Mary Grace entered the candidature at Sancta Maria in Ripa in St. Louis on August 30, 1944. After a year of college courses, she was missioned to St. Mary's in New Orleans, Louisiana to teach second grade. She was received into the novitiate on July 29, 1946, and was given the name Regina Marie. She professed first vows on July 30, 1947, and final vows on July 30, 1953.

Sister Regina Marie earned a bachelor's degree in education from Immaculate Heart College in Los Angeles, California in 1953 and a master's degree in education from St. Louis University in 1962.

Sister Regina Marie taught elementary children for 48 years. In St. Louis, she taught at Holy Ghost, St. Francis de Sales and Our Lady of Loretto schools. In Illinois, she taught at St. Luke School in Belleville and St. Anthony School in Effingham. In Texas, she taught at Our Lady of Mount Carmel School in Houston. She spent 24 years teaching in California at Santa Isabel School in Los Angeles, St. Marianne School in Pico Rivera, and Our Lady of Perpetual Help School in Indio.

She also taught math for elementary school teachers in several evening classes as well as Saturday and summer classes at the former Notre Dame College in St. Louis for four years. During this time, she was a teaching supervisor for elementary teachers. Sister Regina Marie also ministered as the school treasurer at Instituto Notre Dame in El Progreso, Honduras, and at Anton M. Simsek Elementary School in Etiwanda, California.

Sister Regina Marie returned to the Midwest from California in 1998 and served in various congregational roles at Sancta Maria in Ripa. When her vision became more impaired and her health needs required more assistance, she was transferred to Veronica House in 2007, and Anna House in 2015. She died peacefully on the morning of September 30, 2021, at the Anna House.

A prayer service was held at The Sarah Community on October 5, 2021. The funeral services were held at Theresa Center the next morning. Following the reading of her biography and sharing of memories, the Mass of Resurrection was celebrated with Rev. Ralph Parthie, OFM as celebrant. Relatives, former students, friends and SSND attended the funeral services. The burial was in the

*continued*

# In Loving Memory



*Sister Regina Marie  
Grohman*



Sancta Maria in Ripa Cemetery.

In her autobiography, Sister Regina Marie states, “My life as a School Sister has had its joys and its difficulties, its opportunities for growth and its challenges. Perhaps my greatest challenge has come with learning to accept lovingly who I am as well as accepting my physical limitation of greatly impaired vision... through the prayer and help of others, I can say with the psalmist ‘God, you have searched me and you know me; you have probed me deeply and know me well.’ I have come to believe that with God, knowledge and love are one.”

Sister Regina Marie was an excellent teacher of boys. She was strict, firm and fair. Her experiences in California and her years as a missionary in Honduras gave her tremendous respect and reverence for the Hispanic people and their culture. She was a delightful person in community with a great sense of humor. Her quick wit, determination and faithful witness to her calling were an inspiration to those who knew her. She touched the lives of many persons and will be missed. May she now rejoice in beholding her God face-to-face as she enters into her new and eternal life.

*By Sister Carol Marie Willdt, SSND*

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