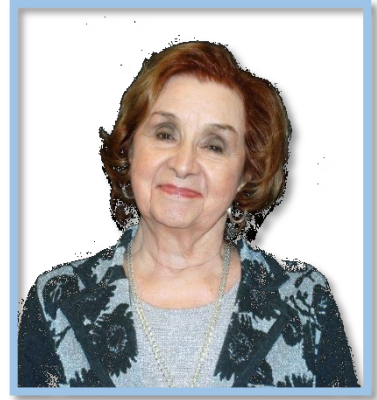


April 25, 2023

Dear Sisters and Associates,

Ramona Smith, devoted wife, loving mother, and grandmother, and dedicated Associate, entered her eternal life on April 19, 2023. Ramona “Mona” Smith was born on April 26, 1931, in Indianapolis and attended grade school at St. Joan of Arc, then Shortridge High School and Indiana University.



Ramona raised two daughters Debra and Lisa and spent precious time with her three grandchildren and four great grandchildren. In 1961 she received her Real Estate License and found great enjoyment with this, becoming the number one salesperson many times. She worked as the Secretary in the parish office of St. Pius X. It was then she met and married Andy Smith. In 1995 she and Andy made their commitments as Associates with Sister Barb Piller as their contact person.

Sister Barb said “I have many fond memories of Mona while working together at St. Pius X Parish in Indianapolis. Her kindness and humor filled the office area. The Parish staff would eat the noon meal together and Mona cooked for us many days. At one point in time, she was trying to help us eat healthy. She served a dish with tofu. The pastor, (who was usually very kind and loving) hated it and let all of us know! It was never served again.

Her Franciscan spirit was visible in her care of plants and stray animals, especially cats. Mona loved to make everything look beautiful. She loved to garden and assisted me in planting flowers in my yard in Indianapolis and in our yard in St. Paul, Indiana. She became a treasured friend.”

Faithful to praying for the needs of the sisters and associates, Ramona felt her associate relationship brought her closer to the Lord and she appreciated belonging to such a special group of amazing people. She received support from her Franciscan friends when Andy died from Non Hodgkins Lymphoma in 1997. Barb Piller especially sustained her with her ongoing love and caring spirit. Ramona was a member of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish after Andy’s death.

Retired, Ramona stayed in their home until 2013 when she moved to The Stratford, in Carmel becoming very busy working on several committees there and as a member of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish. Ramona joyfully reflected over the years that “the best part of being an Associate is truly feeling it has brought me closer to our Lord. I feel I am a kinder, softer person who prays more, and I feel calmer and more centered.” This was so true. Her light, good humor, alive spirit and love for life was shared with many even up to the moment of her death.

Ramona, may the developing relationship you had with God be complete now as you live fully in His presence.

In loving memory,

Carolyn Meyer