



SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS

PO Box 100 OLDENBURG, IN 47036
WWW.OLDENBURGFRAUCISCANS.ORG



S. BARBARA HILEMAN

November 25, 2024

Dear Sisters, Associates, Co-workers, Family and Friends,

On Friday, November 22, at 10:00 a.m. our dear Sister Barb Hileman slipped peacefully into eternity, where she was greeted by our Loving God. Her relatively swift journey home was a surprise to all of us. Prior to a massive stroke on Wednesday, November 13, Barb was still up and around, participating in community and family events. Although she was slowing down and had recently moved to St. Clare Hall, our healthcare facility, no one expected her to welcome Sister Death so soon.

Barbara Jean Hileman was a Christmas gift from God to her family, born in her grandparents' home on December 25, 1933, in Anna, IL. Her parents, Robert (Ted) and Evelyn (Howenstein) Hileman later welcomed two additional children, Tony and Mary Therese (Tippy). To find work during the depression, the family relocated to Indianapolis when Barb was three years old. They settled in Little Flower Parish where additional relatives soon joined them. While attending Little Flower Grade School, Barb first met the Sisters of St. Francis. After two years of high school at St. Agnes Academy, Barb missed the friendly, joyous spirit of the Franciscans and transferred to St. Mary Academy until graduation.

Barb entered our community on September 8, 1951, and professed her final vows on August 12, 1957. A lover of education and a life-long learner, Barb earned a bachelor's degree from Marian College (now University) and two master's degrees from the University of Dayton and Loyola College in Baltimore, MD. In addition, Barb took countless classes and workshops in a variety of topics. Everything she learned broadened her horizons, allowed her to grow personally and spiritually, enhanced her ministry and increased her gratitude to the Loving Creator of All.

On her 50th Jubilee, Barb described her variety of ministries, "the years have brought so many opportunities and blessings---the delight of teaching first and second graders, the challenge of junior high and principalship, followed by the privilege of ministering in parishes, accompanying adults in their faith journey and preparing couples for marriage. Then came the rich experience of sharing with the Navajo people in New Mexico in a mutual spiritual journey.... Now, as a chaplain in a long term acute care hospital, I continue to be enriched as I journey with those so close to God as they live the mystery of suffering....What a marvelous life! What an amazing God!"

Barb loved her family and took every possible opportunity to spend time with them. The annual Indianapolis 500 parties were special as were many other gatherings and celebrations. Barb enjoyed traveling and loved nature. She looked forward to an almost annual retreat with her friend, Joanita, in Maggie Valley, North Carolina, where the natural beauty of the mountains, streams, plants and animal life of the Smokey Mountains nourished body, mind and spirit.

We express our deepest sympathy to Barb's family, her classmates, her many friends, especially S. Joanita Koors, and to our nursing and pastoral care staff in St. Clare Hall who cared for her so lovingly. We will miss

her smile, her calm, quiet presence, her spirituality, her love for growth and learning. We are grateful to have known and loved Barb and to have shared our lives with her.

In loving memory,

S. Maureen Irwin, OSF

S. Maureen Irvin
for the Leadership Team

Sister Barbara Hileman (*formally S. Concetta*)

Born: December 25, 1933

Entered Religious Life: September 8, 1951

Died: November 22, 2024

MISSIONS WHERE S. BARBARA SERVED:

1953-1954	St. Aloysius, Bridgetown, Cincinnati OH
1954-1958	St. Agnes, Evansville IN
1958-1959	St. Peter, Hamilton OH
1959-1962	St. Joseph, Cincinnati OH
1962-1965	Our Lady of Mercy, Dayton OH
1965-1966	St. James, Cincinnati OH
1966-1969	St. Peter, Chillicothe OH
1969-1972	St. Louis, Batesville IN
1972-1973	St. Mary, Aurora IN
1973-1974	St. Mary, Bloomington IL
1974-1976	St. Bernadette, Indianapolis IN
1976-1978	St. Catherine, St. Louis MO
1978-1981	St. Gabriel, Connersville IN
1981-1984	St. Christopher, Indianapolis IN
1984-1986	Sabbatical Studies, Washington Theological Union
1986-1990	St. Leon Parish, St. Leon IN
1990-1992	St. Mary Parish, Tohatchi NM
1992-1997	St. Anthony Mission, Naschitte NM
1997-2000	St. Joseph Medical Center, Albuquerque NM
2000-2014	St. Vincent Hospital, Carmel IN
2014-2024	Motherhouse, Oldenburg IN

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Weigel Funeral Home – visit their website to view Sister’s online memorial, and if desired, an online condolence may be left on the site to share with her family and the Franciscan Sisters – www.Weigelfh.com

Memorial Donations in Sister’s memory may be given online at www.OldenburgFranciscans.org