



SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS

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



S. MARILYN DOERGER

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

On Monday, September 23, 2024, our Sister Marilyn journeyed home to her God, greeted by her family and friends who have gone before her. All were there celebrating the goodness she was throughout her earthly life.

Marilyn was born on March 20, 1943, to Clara Pfeiffer Doerger and Urban Doerger in Cincinnati, OH. She was their first daughter and second child. Marilyn grew up in the family with an older brother, James, and two younger siblings, Victor and Valerie. She spoke lovingly of her family, and it was evident of their love for her as they stayed connected through visits, phone calls, emails, letters etc.

Marilyn joined our Community on February 2, 1961. She states in her biography, "It seems as though Franciscans have always impressed me. Their joy is what attracted me as well as the simplicity of the Oldenburg motherhouse. It seems that I made up my mind from the very beginning to follow the call and I have not doubted since."

With a Franciscan spirit and heart, Marilyn shared her gifts with others in a variety of ministries. These opportunities included teaching, being a principal, house mother to abused and abandoned girls, media secretary in the Cincinnati office of religious education, resident manager, and wellness (activities) assistant. Marilyn chose her work at Sem Terrace Retirement Community in Milford, OH, so she could be close and take care of her parents. After her father passed, Marilyn went with her mother to St. Leonard's Franciscan Living Community in Centerville, OH, where she was an activities assistant. When she retired to the motherhouse, she volunteered in the Oldenburg Academy Advancement Office and was instrumental in involving our sisters in many delightful activities.

There was a personal survey that Marilyn had completed about herself that showed she was an activity director for herself as well as others. When asked what was life giving to her, she responded that making people happy and getting them involved was what gave her joy. Marilyn had a few favorite hobbies including doing things on the computer and listening to country and spiritual music. Going to movies, eating out, and shopping are some things she enjoyed with friends. She also found happiness for herself and others playing card games such as Euchre, 500, Hearts, Spades, and Solitaire.

Although Marilyn ministered to many in several unique ways, it was not **what** she did but **how** she did it that mattered to others. A co-worker wrote to Marilyn saying, "And I could "hear" a smile from you when we talked on the phone." Another wrote, "I love your enthusiasm and your attention to detail. You remind me of various slogans that tell the story that no one is going to be left behind." Val, her sister, wrote a letter to Marilyn on her 60th birthday. Her message was the following, "It's always Spring around you. You warm everyone's heart. I feel close to God just being near you. Thank you for so many years of love and joy." These quotes are evident of Marilyn's big heart and big smile. She was a faithful presence of God's joyful inclusivity.

We express our deepest sympathy to her brother, Jim and his wife, Phyllis, her nieces and nephews, friends, classmates, and to our nursing and pastoral care staff who gently and kindly attended Marilyn as she did to others.

In grateful memory,

S. Maggie Rahe, OSF

Sister Margaret Rahe
For the Leadership Team

SISTER MARILYN (formerly S. Christine) DOERGER

Birth: March 20, 1943

Entered Religious Life: February 2, 1961

Entered Eternal Life: September 23, 2024

MISSIONS AT WHICH S. MARILYN (S. Christine) SERVED:

1963-1965	St. Mary, Evansville IN
1965-1967	St. Ann, Hamilton OH
1967-1969	St. Aloysius, Bridgetown OH
1969-1971	Sacred Heart, Fairfield OH
1972-1975	St. Joseph, Evansville IN
1975-1981	Sacred Heart, Fairfield OH
1981-1984	St. Gabriel, Indianapolis IN
1984-1989	Sacred Heart, Fairfield OH
1989-1990	One Way Farm, Fairfield OH
1990-2001	Archdiocese of Cincinnati, Cincinnati OH
2001-2005	Sem Villa, Cincinnati OH
2005-2014	St. Leonard, Centerville OH
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