

## Death Notice

**SISTER MARY NORENE** ND 5795

Margaret Ann MCCORMACK



Immaculate Conception Province, USA

Date and Place of Birth	November 3, 1944	Cincinnati, OH
Date and Place of Profession	August 16, 1966	Covington, KY
Date and Place of Death	March 31, 2022	Covington, KY
Date and Place of Burial	April 9, 2022	Covington, KY

Margaret Ann (Peggy) was born into the loving family of John and Norma McCormack. She was the third child in a family of seven children. The children were very close and labeled themselves “The Seven from Heaven.” Peggy received her elementary education at St. Agnes School, Ft. Wright, Kentucky, and graduated from Notre Dame Academy, Covington, Kentucky. During high school Peggy enjoyed life. She wanted to be certain religious life was what God wanted for her. After God’s constant reminders, she answered the call and entered the Congregation of the Sisters of Notre Dame in August 1963. Sister Mary Norene made her profession of vows on August 16, 1966.

Sister M. Norene received her Bachelor of Arts at Thomas More University, and her Master of Education at Xavier University. Her first assignment was teaching first grade at Sacred Heart School, Bellevue, Kentucky. Later, while ministering at St. Columban School, Loveland, OH, she was instrumental in the construction of a nature trail in the wooded area behind the school. Besides teaching primary grades in both the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, Ohio, and the Diocese of Covington, Kentucky, her fifty-year career as an educator included serving as principal at St. Michael School, Bellevue, and St. Edward School, Cynthiana, KY. Her final ministry was fourteen years at Prince of Peace Montessori School in Covington.

When Sister Mary Norene was diagnosed with Parkinson’s disease, she moved to St. Joseph Heights in 2016. Even though some days were harder than others, she would often be found at the computer looking for images of birds or butterflies. She created books for children about nature and butterflies. She delighted in making science come to life. With the help of the employees, she would produce syrup by collecting sap from maple trees, or construct house cocoons of netting where larvae could emerge as butterflies a few weeks later.

Sister Mary Norene’s health became more fragile since the beginning of the year. A strong family bond could be seen in these past few weeks as her sisters and brothers came to spend time with her. On the morning of March 31, she went home to God peacefully. Sister M. Norene’s deepest passion was her calling to serve God and the children. Her love for science and nature touched many, both young and old. She will be forever remembered for her perseverance and for never surrendering to her diagnosis of Parkinson’s disease. Her strength has inspired us all.

May she now live in joy and peace in God’s loving embrace for all eternity.