



Sr. Virginia Derk

September 2, 1927 - January 2, 2009

Visitation for Sister Virginia Marie (Derdzinski) Derk, SSCM, 81, of Kankakee, will be from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. today and from 9 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. Monday in the chapel at Provena St. Mary's Hospital. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Monday at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Kankakee. Father Mike Powell will officiate. Burial will be in St. Mary's Cemetery, Beaverville.

Memorials may be made to the Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary. She died Friday (Jan. 2, 2009) at Provena St. Mary's Hospital. She was a teacher, principal, provincial superior and past head of St. Mary's Pastoral Care. She was born Sept. 2, 1927, in Chicago, the daughter of Stanley and Frances Wieczorek Derdzinski. She graduated from St. Gall Elementary School in 1941, Lourdes High School in 1945, received a Bachelor's of philosophy in education in 1958, a Master's in administration/theology in 1964, and received a teacher's certification (6-12) in 1960 and NACC chaplain certification in 1983. She was a USCC certified supervisor. She took her final vows in 1953. She was a teacher at Holy Heart of Mary Novitiate in Beaverville (July 1945-Aug. 1958); St. Gall Community in Chicago (Jan. 1948-Aug. 1958); principal and teacher at St. Peter Community in Geneva (Aug. 1958-May 1962); St. John the Baptist Community in Silver Spring, Md. (Aug. 1962-Aug. 1966); St. Mary Magdalene School in Joliet (Aug. 1966-July 1968); Provincial Residence in Kankakee (Aug. 1968-Aug. 1977); and St. Mary's Community in Kankakee (Aug. 1977 to present). She founded both St. Peter's School in Geneva and St. John the Baptist School in Silver Spring. While at St. Mary's Hospital, she

was assistant director of Pastoral Care (1977-1983); ServantCor, CPE Center/USCC Supervisor; Vice president of Pastoral Services (1983-1987); Vice President of Mission Effectiveness (1987-1988); Director of Pastoral Care (1988-2007); and Pastor Care associate (2007-2008). Surviving are several nieces and nephews. Deceased are one sister, Eleanor Derk; three brothers, Stanley, C. Jerry and Ronald Derk; and special friend, Gene Vaughan.

Tribute Wall



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“ Our sympathies to the family of Sister Virginia and to the Sisters of the Holy Heart of Mary.

Sister Virginia was a great person. As a Deacon on my visits to St Mary?s Hospital I always looked forward to seeing and talking with her. She was always pleasant and interesting.

Now she is with the Lord and we can take solace in the words of i ½

Blessed Ildefonso Schuster:

?Why should we mourn

when those who have left us

have suffered no loss,

but have rather gained all?

Instead of earthly life

they have gained eternal life;

they have exchanged

a house of earth

for a heavenly mansion;

in place of the world

they have found God.?

Sister Virginia God love you forever!

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