



Sister Mary Joan Phillips

SEP 4, 1926 - JUL 21, 2021



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Sister Mary Joan Phillips

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Sister Mary Joan Phillips

Sr. Mary Joan Phillips, age 94 years, died on July 21, 2021, at Ascension Mercy Hospital, Oshkosh, WI.

Sr. Mary Joan was born in Waterloo, Iowa on September 4, 1926. She was the second of six children born to Mary Catherine Schmitz and Theodore Phillips. She was baptized Theresa Marie.

She entered the Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother on October 15, 1945 and received the name Sister Mary Joan when she received the religious habit on August 12, 1946. Sister professed her final vows on August 12, 1951 in Milwaukee, WI. She celebrated her Silver Jubilee on September 1, 1973 and her Golden Jubilee on September 1, 1995 both in Denville, NJ. She celebrated her 60th Jubilee on September 21, 2008 in Oshkosh, WI.

After first vows she was asked to teach for “one year” which grew into a teaching career of 47 years. She taught in Kansas, Wisconsin, Iowa and New Jersey. She was the principal of St. Mary’s School, Denville, NJ from 1966-1995. Upon retiring from education in 1995, she began a new ministry in the Pastoral Care Department at Saint Clare Hospital, Denville, NJ (1995-2018). Sister retired to SSM Franciscan Courts, Oshkosh, WI on February 4, 2020.

Sister was known for her endless energy, fast walk wherever she went and the hospitality she offered everyone.

Sister is preceded in death by her parents and her brothers: Eldred, Norbert, Joseph and Neal Phillips. She is survived by her sister Marilyn Sieberg who lives in Mankato, MN along with nieces and nephews.



Obituary

Sister Mary Joan Phillips

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Homecoming will be on Wednesday, July 28, 2021, at 4:00pm at Franciscan Courts. The Mass of Christian Burial will be on Thursday, July 29, 2021, at 10:30 am at Franciscan Courts. Rev. William Hower will be the presider. Burial will be in Calvary Cemetery in Mankato, MN. Fiss & Bills Poklasny Funeral Home oversees the arrangements.

Please contact Carlene Enama at 920-230-2050 if you would like to attend either of these services.



Tribute Wall

Sister Mary Joan Phillips

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TD

Tom Dean posted:

Sister Joan was the energizer bunny, always wanting to help everyone, she truly lived up to her Vows, Rest In Peace Sister Joan. Tom Dean

July 29 at 12:23 PM

NW

Nancy Witte lit a candle in honor of Sister Mary.

Sister Joan will always hold a special place in my memories. Totally supported all her teachers and kept us on a positive track. I will miss her vibrant outlook on life. Thanks for taking a chance on me - a Lutheran at St. Mary's School teaching science. Nancy Witte



July 28 at 2:42 AM

YD

Yolanda Doganay posted:

Sister Joan was a household name in my family for many years. Even now, we all remember fondly the way she ruled St Mary's and impacted our lives. Rest In Peace, Sister Joan. We love you. ❤️
Yolanda (Tomala) Doganay

July 27 at 4:15 PM

EC

Ed Clark lit a candle in honor of Sister Mary.

July 27 at 1:13 PM



EC

Ed Clark July 27 at 1:15 PM

I remember Sister Joan from my childhood, Sunday School, Church etc growing up in Denville. May she rest in peace.



Tribute Wall

Sister Mary Joan Phillips

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IL

Ingrid Leibrecht posted:

Sister Mary Joan, Thank so much for your many years of dedicated service to the Sisters of Sorrowful Mother and to your years of service at St. Mary's School as Principal. You were an extraordinary person who was always there to give assistance and light to others. My family lived on St. Mary's Place and we're very active in the school and church. I attended St Mary's school graduated 8th grade from there. You were a gift from God and will be truly missed. May God bless you and your family. Rest In Peace. With love, The McDermott Family and children Ingrid, John, Matthew and Elerine 🙏🙏❤️

July 27 at 11:05 AM

MT

Mary Ehrhardt-Travostino posted:

Sister Joan was a big part of our lives and left an indelible mark on my heart. I spent a lot of time with her versus being in the classroom. She would tell me decades later that I was not a bad girl but just a girl with a fiery spirit! Great memories. May she rest from her labors for her good deeds go with her..Mary (Ehrhardt) Travostino

July 27 at 8:01 AM

AE

Adriane Selesky Eoga posted:

Sister Joan was a big part of our family's lives for many decades. She was the Director of the Associates of the Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother, a group that my mom and I have been a part of since 2010. She was a tremendous part of the SSM, the Saint Clare's and the Denville, NJ community. She was soft spoken, prayerful and she was truly a woman of God. She never went without her Habit on her head. She was so proud of being a Sister. We will miss her. 🙏

July 26 at 6:27 PM



Donna Curtin posted:

A wonderful, kind Principal. I remember her fondly. God rest her soul. Donna Curtin SMS 1969

July 26 at 5:20 PM

AL **Anders Lynch** August 1 at 7:35 PM
Very sorry to hear that Sister Joan has died. She was a great principal in St. Mary's in the eighties for my sister, brother and me. I will always have great memories of her and the great school that she managed. My condolences to her extended family. Sincerely, Anders Lynch

JM **Joyce Maines** July 30 at 11:57 AM
Rest in Peace, Sister Joan, many memories, you were always there for all of us.

BS **Betty Saccamano** July 29 at 3:46 PM
I will miss my very special friend. It was always a pleasure reminiscing about our time together at st.marys school and family. Rest In Peace. Betty saccamano

JB **Joyce Bolger** July 29 at 4:55 AM
Our family remembers your love and dedication to St. Mary's Church and School. Rest In Peace dear Sister Joan.

JB **Joyce Bolger** July 29 at 4:53 AM
The Bolger family remembers your dedication and love to the students at St. Mary's School and Church. Rest In Peace dear Sister Joan.

WH **William R Healey** July 27 at 3:11 AM
A wonderful educator and friend to the Healey family for so many years. God Bless her life and provide her with the just reward of his loving arms!BILL HEALEY SMS 1970

JH **Joyce Huebsch** July 26 at 6:16 PM
A wonderful friend for over forty years. I worked with Sister at Mary's for fifteen years and remained with her as a friend. During her final years in Oshkosh we spoke often on the phone for hours. I will really miss her ...God bless you Sister Joan,Joyce Huebsch



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Sister Mary by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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