



Sister St. Martin Distel

March 13, 1935 - July 24, 2013

(News article) A woman who was dedicated to her ministry as a home health aide after 35 years teaching in Roman Catholic schools around northwest Ohio, Sister St. Martin Distel died Wednesday in the Ursuline Center. She was 78.

She had Alzheimer's disease, Ursuline Sister Kathleen Padden said.

Sister St. Martin entered the Ursuline Convent in 1953 and received a bachelor's degree in education from the former Mary Manse College. Teaching assignments that followed took her to schools at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, St. Thomas Aquinas, Rosary Cathedral parishes and St. Angela Hall, all in Toledo, and to St. Joseph School in Tiffin and St. Gerard School in Lima, Ohio.

As a health aide until about two years ago, she provided health-care and cleaning services in homes.

"She was devoted to the homebound elders," Sister Kathleen said. "She was particularly helpful to people who wanted to stay in their homes."

The former Martha Distel was born in 1935 to Cora and Arthur Distel. She attended Calvert High School in Tiffin.

A sister, Sister Joan of Arc Distel, also was in the Ursuline community and taught in the northwest Ohio Catholic schools. Sister Joan of Arc died Sept. 30, 2005.

Surviving are her brothers, Robert, James, and John Distel, and sister, Agnes Zeiger.

Visitation is to begin at 3 p.m. today in the Ursuline Center, with vigil services at 6:30 p.m. Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday in the Ursuline Center.

Tributes are suggested to the Ursuline Convent of the Sacred Heart. .

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Cemetery Details

Resurrection Cemetery

5725 Hill Ave
Toledo, OH 43615

Tribute Wall

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“ Heaven accepted a true angel on July 24. I worked with Sr. St. Martin at St. Angela Hall and was awestruck by her teaching ability. She was, without a doubt, one of the finest teachers I had ever worked with. I never heard her raise her voice to her students and she always held high expectations for her students. She had a way of making every student and teacher feel special. My life has been better for having known this fine lady. Thank you Sr. for sharing of yourself with others.

Terri Stevens - July 27, 2013 at 09:52 PM

 Betsy Pharr

“ Sister St. Marien was a gentle soul. Knowing the lady was a privilege.

Betsy Pharr - July 27, 2013 at 06:33 PM

SS

“ Not only was Sister St. Martin my second grade teacher at St. Joseph in Tiffin, but she was my favorite teacher through my 12 years of parochial school. I will always remember Sister, and how she took the time to make a very shy second-grader feel special. Though I can't imagine how much "help" a seven-year-old would have been, she had several of us assist her in cleaning out a third-floor storage room before the start of school some mornings. She even gave me a couple of old primer books to take home. I still have those books. May eternal rest be granted unto you, Sister.

sharon reiter smigielski - July 27, 2013 at 07:25 AM