

## SISTER JOAN HOLLAND 1933 – 2015



Sister Joan Holland was born November 14, 1933, in Vail, Iowa, the eighth of eleven children of John J. and Blanche (Lorenzen) Holland. She was baptized Jeanne Ann on November 21, 1933, at St. Ann Church in Vail. She had seven brothers, John, Joseph, Thomas, Doyle C., James, Patrick, Frank; and three sisters, Mary, Catherine, and Carol.

Jeanne attended Holy Angels School in Omaha, Nebraska, and graduated from Denison Public High School, Denison, Iowa.

She entered the Sisters of St. Francis at Mount St. Clare Convent, Clinton, Iowa, on September 8, 1952, and received the name Sister Joan of Arc at her reception. She was later known simply as Sister Joan. She professed perpetual vows on August 12, 1958. Her novitiate classmates were Sisters Luke Sondgeroth, Louisa Dwyer, Bernice Dunk, Marjorie Wisor, Phyllis Morris, Harriet Rump, and Rose Catherine Biitner, as well as former Sisters Raymond (Kay) Socha, Constance Ludwig, Antonine (Patricia) Krieger, and Julie (Eleanor) Buehler. Sister Joan attended Mount St. Clare College and received a bachelor's degree in education from St. Ambrose College, Davenport, Iowa. She held a Life Teaching Certificate from California.

Sister Joan's love of children and joyful spirit of service was evident in her ministry as a talented and beloved teacher. Her first missions were at St. Rita School in Cameron, Missouri, and at St. Mary School in Hawarden, Iowa. The remainder of her active ministry was in California. Sister Joan taught at St. Catherine of Alexandria, Riverside; St. LaSalle, Reedley; St. Margaret Mary, Chino; and Resurrection Academy, Fontana.

Sister Joan was honored by Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, for her "contribution to the development of intellectual growth in her community and her country." She was not only interested in her students' academic growth, but in their spiritual and emotional growth as well. At the end of her career, she spent fourteen years at St. Catherine of

Alexandria in Riverside, first as a teacher and then as Spiritual Campus Minister for the students.

Sister Joan retired at the Canticle in July of 2011. She moved to the Alverno in November, 2013, where she resided until her death on June 7, 2015. Her ongoing courage and faith in God were an inspiration not only to the Sisters with whom she shared community but also to her caregivers and the residents at The Alverno.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her seven brothers, and her sisters Mary Holland and Cathy Clausen. She is survived by her sister Carol Cavano of Bluffton, South Carolina, her brother-in-law Michael Clausen of Wright, Missouri, several nieces and nephews, and the Sisters of St. Francis with whom she shared life for almost 63 years.