

Sister Margaret Rose Donnelly SSND, 76, of Decatur, IN, passed away on Thursday, May 12, 2011 at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne, IN. She was born Barbara Ann Donnelly on September 14, 1934 in Detroit, MI into the Irish-Catholic home of the late William Thomas and Margaret (Robine) Donnelly.



She is survived by her sister Kathryn “Jeannie” (E. Joseph) Ricard of Clinton Twp., MI; a special friend Patricia A. Tocco of Logansport, IN; 12 nieces and nephews and numerous great nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by two brothers William and James Donnelly.

She was a 1952 graduate of St. Anthony High School in Detroit, MI; she worked as a secretary for four years at Michigan Blue Cross/Blue Shield.

On September 2, 1956 she entered the Congregation of The School Sisters of Notre Dame, an international teaching order. On July 2, 1957 she received the new name of Sister Margaret Rose Donnelly. July 22, 1958 she took her first vows followed by her final vows six years later on July 22, 1964. Over the years she taught various grades in elementary and high school in Chicago and Grand Rapids, Michigan and was involved in provincial administration.

She then served as a pastoral associate at All Saints Parish in Logansport, IN “the love of her life” from 1984 -1996. Father Phil DeVolder asked her to serve her final assignment in 1996 as pastoral associate of St. Mary of the Assumption Parish in Decatur where she remained till her death. The years at St. Mary’s were the most fulfilling and happiest years of her life.

The body will be received at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church at 3:30 p.m. on Monday, May 16, 2011 immediately followed by the reciting of the Holy Rosary. Visitation will then take place from 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. at St. Mary’s with another reciting of the Holy Rosary at 7:00 p.m. The church will remain open from 8:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. for a 12 hour vigil with her body in-state and Eucharistic exposition.

Visitation will be from 9:00-11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 17, 2011 at the church followed by an 11:00 a.m. Mass of Resurrection with The Most Reverend Bishop Kevin Rhoades presiding. Burial will take place in St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery in Decatur, IN.

Memorials may be made to the School Sisters of Notre Dame Retirement Fund.

Haggard-Sefton & Hirschy Funeral Home online obit (accessed 3/15/2016)