

SISTER PAULINE PEKOWSKI, O.S.F. (EDWARD ANN) 721

Born: August 11, 1932

Parents: Edward and Mary Hazel (Ray) Pekowski

Postulancy: September 6, 1948

Novitiate: August 12, 1949

First Profession: August 12, 1951

Final Profession: August 13, 1954



Died Sunday June 12, 1994 approximately 9:30 a.m. Brazil time (7:30 a.m. Joliet time) at the airport in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Ministry:

- 1951-1957 St. Mary, Des Plaines, IL, Grades 1, 2, 3,4
- 1957-1963 Sts. Peter and Paul, Chicago, IL, Grade 1
- 1963-1965 St. Michael, Worthington, OH, Grade 1
- 1965-1972 Santa Helena de Goiás, Goiás, Brazil, Teacher-Catechetics
- 1972-1979 Cruzeiro, Brazil, Catechetics, Pastoral Ministry
- 1980- Sabbatical, Chicago, IL
- 1981-1984 Santa Helena de Goiás, Goiás, Brazil, Pastoral Ministry, Director of Catechetics, Member of Formation Team and Local Vocation Promotion (1984)
- 1985-1992 Convent Nossa Senhora Aparecida, Maurilândia, Goiás, Brazil, Pastoral Ministry, Director of Postulants (1991)
- 1993-1994 Casara, Tocantins, Brazil, Pastoral Ministry, Catechetics

Wake: Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL, Sunday June 19, 1994
2-7:30 p.m. with prayer service at 4:30 p.m.

Mass of Christian Burial: Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL
Sunday June 19, 1994 at 7:30 p.m.

Burial: Monday, June 20, 1994 leaving Our Lady of Angels at 9:00 a.m.
Resurrection Cemetery, Romeoville, IL, S8-L351-G1

Survived by: her mother Hazel, her sisters Rosemary Karlovits (Frank) of Arlington Heights, JoAnn Glascott (James) of Chicago, her brothers Edward G. Pekowski (Adele) of Lubbock, TX, Raymond J. Pekowski (Linda) of South Lake, TX and many nieces and nephews

*For those who have been faithful, O Lord,
life is not ended, but merely changed.*

Pauline Pekowski was born in St. Louis, Missouri to Edward and Hazel Mary Ray Pekowski on August 11, 1932, and she was baptized Pauline Dolores at Sacred Heart Church. The family moved to Chicago and Pauline began her education with the Joliet Franciscans at St. Francis Xavier Church in the Avondale Neighborhood of Chicago. Pauline came to St. Francis Preparatory in Joliet, where she completed her high school at St. Francis Academy at the end of her postulant year. On entering the Novitiate on August 12, 1949, Pauline was given the name of Sister Edward Ann.

Sister Edward Ann began her ministry of education at St. Mary's in Des Plaines, then moved to SS Peter and Paul on Chicago's South Side. Sister Pauline loved her teaching ministry and was an excellent teacher. In 1965, while teaching at St. Michael's in Worthington, Ohio, Sister responded to the call to serve as a missionary in Brazil. Though sad at her going so far away, her family supported her in this decision. After the departure ceremony her mother wrote these words to Mother Borromeo: "Just a note to thank you and all the Sisters for all you did to make Sister Edward Ann's departure to South America so wonderful.. Our sadness was turned into happiness when we saw so much love shown our daughter.... Again let me say thanks to all of you."

Sister Pauline kept close to her family and felt totally supported by them. Her parents visited her in Brazil and came to a new understanding of the work she was doing there.

Officially missioned to Brazil on July 25, 1965, Sister Pauline set sail for Brazil shortly after, going by boat in order to take barrels of the items donated by generous benefactors. Her missionary work began in Santa Helena and continued in various pastoral settings meeting the needs of those she served. In 1993 Sister Pauline and Sister Odelia went to the frontier to work in a more remote area in the new state of Tocantins. Sister Pauline loved her work in Brazil, and the people there loved her in return. In all she did she worked with meticulous care and had a warm and friendly heart ready to welcome anyone she met. Her generous heart is typified in a familiar expression, "Oh my heart!" Often this was the first English phrase learned by our Brazilian Sisters. Dedication and enthusiasm were part of all she did. Many treasure her brief notes, always grateful for anything anyone would do. Her signature was always followed by a "smiley face". ☺

It was from the town of Caseara in Tocantins that Sister Pauline left to visit her family in June of 1994, and was returning to work there when she suffered severe heart complications while changing planes in Rio de Janeiro. A cardiologist attended her, but was not able to reverse the damage done so suddenly to her heart. A priest was also there to anoint Sister Pauline as she made her final journey to God.

Sister Pauline, we thank you for your generous heart which has loved so many so well throughout your life. As you now experience the depth of God's love, may you pray for each of us, your family, your Sisters and your friends in North and South America, that we continue in the outreach of love you have shown. Amen. Alleluia.

