

Alleluia!

Sister Delores A. Rummel, OSF



A native of Chicago, Sister Delores Rummel was the second child of Charles and Mary Tobin Rummel. Dee, as she was lovingly called, has two sisters, Patricia and Eloise, and one brother, Charles. When Dee was born, the Rummel family lived in St. Columbanus Parish, where Dee was baptized and attended grade school. They later moved to St. Francis de Sales Parish, where Dee completed grade school and first met the Joliet Franciscans.

As an aspirant, Dee attended St. Francis Academy in Joliet and graduated in 1961. After a year in the postulancy, Dee entered the novitiate in August 1962 and received the name Sister Carl Mary. She later returned to her baptismal name, Delores Anne. Dee graduated from the College of St. Francis in 1967 and later received a Masters Degree in Christian Spirituality from Mundelein College in Chicago.

Dee began teaching elementary school in 1966 at St. Joseph in Freeport, Illinois. She also taught at SS. Peter and Paul in Chicago and St. Rita in Aurora before spending two years as a counselor at Guardian Angel Home in Joliet.

In 1977 Dee began her 23 years of ministry to St. Andrew the Apostle Parish in Romeoville, where she spent six years as teacher, eight years as Director of Religious Education and the last nine years as Principal. Dee once wrote that she "understood her vocation as one of giving without counting the cost." She lived these words in a special way as she ministered at St. Andrew's, and the parish recognized her dedication. In 1998 the parish Awarded her the St. Andrew's Cross, and in March of 2000, the Council of Catholic Women of St. Andrew's named her the Millennial Woman of the Year. When Father Richard Walsh congratulated her, he wrote "Sister has served our parish as teacher, Director of Religious Education and Principal, and these are only the official titles. Rarely do we talk about her nursing skills, custodial talents and all around 'Sister-Fix-It' abilities. As Chris Koranda noted in her presentation, 'Sister Dee

has given of herself to be all things for all people.'"

As well as giving her all to the parish, Dee also gave of herself to the Congregation. In 1987 she was asked to organize a Joliet Franciscan volunteer program and become its first director. She held this position until 1990 when the volunteer program became part of the newly established Office of Franciscan Futures. Dee was also generous with her time and talents as she videotaped countless Jubilees, meetings and other festivities for the Congregation these past 11 years.

Just about three years ago, Dee was diagnosed with cancer. She approached this time in her life as she did all others, with a positive attitude and great determination. After a courageous battle, surrounded by family and her loyal friend, Sister Dorothy Kinsella, Dee's earthly journey ended on December 28, the Feast of the Holy Innocents.

Dee loved being a Sister of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate. In her request to make final profession in 1972, she wrote, "No matter what form religious life takes or becomes, I believe in its future and its purpose. I want to be a member of this living, growing-constantly, changing part of the Church, our community."

Dee, we thank you for believing in religious life at a time when many doubted. We thank you for your service and dedication to God's people as teacher, principal, friend. As you begin your new life in God's presence, continue to remember us, your family, your friends, your Franciscan sisters. Amen! Alleluia!

Sister Delores A. Rummel OSF
2 September 1943 – 28 December 2000

Born: September 2, 1943, Chicago, Illinois
Parents: Charles H. Rummel and Mary (Tobin) Rummel
Entered From: St. Francis de Sales, Chicago, Illinois
Postulancy: September 9, 1961
Novitiate: August 13, 1962
Profession: August 12, 1964
Entered New Life: Thursday, December 28, 2000, Feast of the Holy Innocents, at 1:30 p.m.

Ministry History

1966 - 1968 Teacher, Grades 2, St. Joseph, Freeport, IL
 1968 - 1974 Teacher, Grades 1, 2 and 4, SS Peter and Paul, Chicago, IL
 1974 - 1975 Teacher, Grade 4, St. Rita, Aurora, IL
 1975 - 1977 Counselor, Guardian Angel Home, Joliet, IL
 1977 - 1983 Teacher, St. Andrew the Apostle, Romeoville, IL
 1983 - 1991 Director of Religious Education, St. Andrew the Apostle, Romeoville, IL
 1987 - 1990 Director of Joliet Franciscan Volunteer Program
 1991 - 2000 Principal, St. Andrew the Apostle, Romeoville, IL

Congregation Wake: Tuesday, January 2, 2001, 10 a.m. - Noon, Our Lady of Angels, Joliet
Sisters' Prayer Service: Tuesday, January 2, 2001, 11:30 a.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet
Wake: Tuesday, January 2, 2001, 2:00 - 7:30 p.m., St. Andrew the Apostle,
 Romeoville
Wake Service: Tuesday, January 2, 2001, 4:30 p.m., St. Andrew the Apostle
Mass of Christian Burial: Tuesday, January 2, 2001, 7:30 p.m., St. Andrew the Apostle
Burial: Wednesday, January 3, 2001; leaving Our Lady of Angels at 10:00 a.m.
 leaving St. Andrew the Apostle at 10:30 a.m.
 to Resurrection Cemetery, Romeoville, IL, Committal at 11:00 a.m.
Interment: S8-L335-G9, Resurrection Cemetery

Survived by: Mary Patricia (Dave) Thompson and Eloise (Robert) Haglund (sisters),
 Charles (Barbara) Rummel (brother) and nieces and nephews.

Rest in Peace, Sister Delores