



In memory

Sister Evelyn (Evelyn Frances) Kelley

Sister Evelyn Kelley, 79, of St. Mary-of-the-Woods, died at 3:10 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 18, 2003, in Mother Theodore Hall. She was a teacher. The former Evelyn Frances Kelley was born Oct. 5, 1924 in Everett, Mass., to Joseph E. Kelley and Evelyn S. Kennedy Kelley. Survivors include three sisters, Jane Driscoll of Stoneham, Mass., Sister Eileen Ann Kelley, SP, of St. Mary-of-the-Woods and Eileen A. Kelley of Reading, Mass.; and one brother, the Rev. John J. Kelley of Spokane, Wash. She attended Cheverus grade school and Cheverus High School in Maiden, Mass., receiving her bachelor's degree in education from St. Mary-of-the-Woods College and master's degree in special education from Indiana State University. She entered the Congregation of the Sisters of Providence on July 22, 1944, professed First Vows Jan. 23, 1947 and Final Vows Jan. 23, 1952. She taught in schools staffed by the Sisters of Providence in Indiana, Illinois, California, North Carolina, New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Taiwan. Mass of Christian Burial is 11 a.m. Tuesday in the Church of the Immaculate Conception with the Rev. Daniel R. Hopcus officiating. Burial is in the Cemetery of the Sisters of Providence. Wake is 2:30 p.m. Monday in Providence Hall with service at 4:30 p.m. in the church. The Callahan Funeral Home assisted with arrangements.

Death of Sister Evelyn Kelley

Sister Evelyn Kelley, also known as Sister Marie Clare, died September 18, 2003 at 3:10 a.m. in Mother Theodore Hall. The Wake began at 2:30 p.m. with the Wake Service being held at 4:30 p.m. September 22, 2003 at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods. The Mass of Christian Burial in the Church of the Immaculate Conception was celebrated September 23, 2003 with Fr. Daniel Hopcus as presider.

Evelyn Frances Kelley, born October 5, 1924 in Everett, MA to Joseph E. Kelley and Evelyn S. (Kennedy) Kelley, was one of five children and was baptized at Immaculate Conception, Everett, MA. Evelyn Frances attended Cheverus Centennial grade and high school staffed by the Sisters of Providence in Malden, MA. As a Sister of

Providence, Evelyn earned a BS degree in Education from St. Mary-of-the-Woods College and an MS degree in Special Education from Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN.

Entering the Sisters of Providence July 22, 1944 and receiving the name Sister Marie Clare, Sister professed First Vows January 23, 1947 and Final Vows January 23, 1952.

Sister Evelyn taught in schools staffed by the Sisters of Providence in Indiana, Illinois, California, North Carolina, New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Taiwan. Sister Evelyn spent her first twenty-five years as teacher or principal. For the next fifteen years Sister Evelyn became a Special Education teacher for children at Nazareth Hall, Fall River, MA. When Nazareth Hall closed, she became a Respite Care Provider for handicapped adults at Quality Care Center in New Bedford, MA.

In 1991 Sister Evelyn traveled to St. Therese Opportunity Center where she spent a year working with children with disabilities. Although she couldn't speak the language, she had little problem bonding with the children. One of her greatest treasures from Taiwan was her own chop – a small stamp with her name in Chinese. These years teaching Special Education proved to be a most significant time in her life.

From Eileen, Evelyn's youngest sister, brain damaged since birth, Evelyn learned compassion for those who may be less fortunate. Two other figures who deeply influenced her life were Mother Teresa of Calcutta, India and Father Damian. From Mother Theresa she learned that the first requirement of prayer is silence. From her devotion to Father Damian, however, arose her interest in religious life. On Sister Evelyn's way to Taiwan, she fulfilled a lifelong dream, to visit Molokai where Father Damian had lived and worked and was the first religious to stay overnight in the leper colony as a guest in a patient's home.

Because of ill health, Sister Evelyn returned from Taiwan after a year. For the next ten years she ministered as a driver and companion to the infirmed at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods.

In her final illness, the Sacrament of Anointing and Sister Eileen Ann's special care were comforting to her. Sister Evelyn entered God's embrace in the silence of early morning. Survived by three sisters: Sister Eileen Ann Kelley, SP, her youngest sister,

Eileen A. Kelley, Jane Driscoll and a brother, Rev. John J. Kelley. Her funeral was attended by family members, Sister Eileen Ann, SP and her nephew, Joseph.

Sister Evelyn, our final wish for you is contained in the commentary written by S. Mary Eleanor Galvin and read by Sister Rita Clare Gerardot containing these words from Nan Merrill's Psalms for Praying:

*Enter into the Silence, into the Heart of Truth,
for herein lies the Great Mystery where life is ever unfolding...
Blessings of the Great Silence be with you as
you help to rebuild the heart of the world with love.*



Parents of S. Evelyn Kelley

Evelyn Susanna (Kennedy) and Joseph
Edward Kelley

Parents of S. Evelyn Kelley

Joseph Edward and Evelyn Susanna
(Kennedy) Kelley

C. 1956

