

Sister Kenneth Struckhoff, CSA

Sister Kenneth (Esther Marie) Struckhoff, CSA, died peacefully on Saturday evening, November 19, 2011, at Nazareth Center where she resided. She was surrounded by sisters who sang Spanish and English songs to her, recalling her years of ministry in Nicaragua.



Born in Grinnell, Kansas, on August 20, 1923, to Aloys and Regina (Ballman), Sister's family included 4 brothers and 3 sisters. She professed her vows on August 15, 1942, and began a teaching career in Fond du Lac, WI, Nanty Glo, PA, and Monterey, IN. She answered the call to ministry in Nicaragua from 1953 until 1982. Upon her return to the United States, Sister served as pastoral associate in Kansas before coming back to Fond du Lac in 2006. She continued ministry at St. Agnes Hospital, translated for Taycheedah and Fox Lake Correctional Institutions, and distributed bread to the needy. In December 2010, Sister moved to Nazareth Center when her health declined; she remained connected with family and former students through letters, visits, and phone calls. Sister's passion for sharing the gospel, especially the Beatitudes, was obvious to all she encountered.

Preceding her in death were her parents, Aloys and Regina, and two brothers, Ray and Fred. She is survived by her sisters Alfrieda Ostmeyer, Berniece Hansen, Rita Hitt, and her brothers Charles and Kenneth, many nieces and nephews, and the Sisters of St. Agnes, with whom she lived, prayed and ministered.

Visitation: Visitation for Sister Kenneth Struckhoff will be held on Friday, November 25, at 2 p.m. until 6:15 p.m. at Nazareth Court and Center, 375 Gillett Street, Fond du Lac. A prayer service will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, November 25.

Services: A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Saturday, November 26, at 9:30 a.m. in the St. Francis Home Chapel, 33 Everett Street, Fond du Lac. Bishop Paul Schmitz, OFM Cap., and Father Ken Smits, OFM Cap., will preside. Burial will be at St. Joseph Springs Cemetery.

Memorials may be directed to the Sisters of St. Agnes Development Office, 320 County Road, Fond du Lac, WI 54937.

The Sisters of St. Agnes are grateful to the nurses and staff of Nazareth Court and Center for their care of Sister Kenneth in her last year and of the staff of Hospice Hope for their support in these last weeks.

Zacherl Funeral Home is serving the Sisters of the Congregation of St. Agnes.