Sister Ann McKean, CSA

Sister Ann McKean, CSA, formerly Sister Corona, died peacefully at St. Agnes Hospital, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, on April 11, 2020.

Margaret Ann McKean was born in Adams County, Indiana, on August 1, 1935, to Millard McKean and Margaret Robinson McKean. Her family included four siblings, one boy and three girls. Sister Ann made her profession of vows in the Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes on August 15, 1957, in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin.

Sister received a BA in Education from Marian College of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin; an MA in Theology from Fordham University, New York, New York; and a PhD in Historical Theology from Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee.

Sister was an elementary school teacher for eleven years in Mayville and Fond du Lac, Wisconsin; Des Plaines, Illinois; and East Harlem, Bronx, and Yonkers, New York. She taught at the university level for four years at the University of Texas, Austin; five years at Sacred Heart Seminary, Hales Corners, Wisconsin; five years at Marian University, Fond du Lac; and in 1988-1989 was a Visiting Professor at St. Norbert College, De Pere, Wisconsin. During more than twenty-five years at Christian Brothers University, Memphis, Tennessee, where she served as Chair of the Religion and Philosophy Department from 1991-1994, Sister Ann taught courses in scripture, religious history, Christian spirituality, science and religion, and world religions. She also taught theology and Scripture in Nicaragua and Honduras during her winter breaks, gave numerous presentations on women in religion and did applied research on the future of religious associates in her own congregation and the broader Church. Among her other pursuits while in Memphis, Sister Ann took flying lessons, training to become a licensed pilot.

Sister Ann was selected by her religious congregation to attend the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, China, in 1995, as a UN Observer. She was the founder and first executive director of Adelante Mujer/Advance Woman. This project provides financial support to women in the Caribbean Coastal area of Nicaragua who desire to become doctors and are enrolled in the medical program of URACCAN University in Puerto Cabezas, Nicaragua.

Sister Ann was preceded in death by her parents Millard McKean and Margaret Robinson McKean, and her brother Roy McKean.
She is survived by her sisters Judith Jones and Janet McKeen, her nieces and nephews, and the Sisters of St. Agnes, with whom she lived, prayed and ministered.

Because of current COVID-19 restrictions, a Liturgy of Christian Burial will be held in private services at Nazareth Court and Center, Fond du Lac, WI, with Father Ken Smits, Capuchin, presiding. Burial will take place in St. Joseph Springs Cemetery, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin.

Memorials can be directed to the project Sister Ann founded and directed: Adelante Mujer/Advance Woman, 757 S. Main St., Suite 9, Fond du Lac, WI 54935.

The Sisters of St. Agnes are grateful to the nurses and staff of Nazareth Court and Center for their care of Sister Ann in her last years, and to all who provided care for her at St. Agnes Hospital.

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