Sister Joellen Flynn, CSA

Sister Joellen Flynn, CSA, Rita Monica Flynn, died peacefully May 6, 2015, at Nazareth Center, Fond du Lac.

Rita Monica Flynn was born in Escanaba, Michigan, on February 7, 1925, to William Flynn and Loretta Fahey Flynn. An only girl in the family, she had three brothers.

The Flynn family lived in Fond du Lac for a few years. The opportunity to meet the Sisters of St. Agnes during ninth grade at St. Joseph School, as well as her junior year of high school at St. Mary's Springs Academy, led to admiration for the sisters and proved key to Rita’s future. In 1943 she returned to Fond du Lac to enter St. Agnes Convent and on August 15, 1946, she made first profession of vows in the Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes as Sister Joellen.

She received a B.A. in Education from Marian College of Fond du Lac in 1953 and an M.A. in English from Loyola University, Chicago, in 1961. She kept current in the field of education, enrolling in many school administration courses over the years at a variety of universities. Sister served as elementary teacher for 36 years in Kansas, New York, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Indiana and as principal for 39 years in Indiana, Wisconsin, and New York. She later ministered for 15 years as a teacher and teacher aide in Mississippi. Her most recent years in active service were devoted to pastoral ministries.

Sister Joellen was preceded in death by her parents William Flynn and Loretta Fahey Flynn and by her brothers William Flynn and Fahey Flynn. Sister is survived by her brother Anthony (Tony) Flynn, her nieces and nephews, and the Sisters of St. Agnes, with whom she lived, prayed and ministered.

Visitation for Sister Joellen Flynn will be at Nazareth Court and Center, 375 Gillett Street, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, at 9:30 a.m., followed by a prayer service at 11:00 a.m. on May 11, 2015.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 2:00 p.m. on May 11, 2015, at St. Francis Home Chapel, 33 Everett Street, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. Father Ken Smits, Capuchin, will be the presider. Burial will follow at St. Joseph Springs Cemetery.

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

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

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