



**School Sisters
of Notre Dame**
Central Pacific Province

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jan. 30, 2017

Sister M. Jean Louise Rechner, SSND
Teacher, Administrator

Elm Grove, Wis. – School Sister of Notre Dame Mary Jean Louise Rechner, died January 17, 2017 at Notre Dame of Elm Grove, Elm Grove, Wisconsin. She was 98.

Born September 9, 1918, in Appleton, Wisconsin to Louise and Genevieve (Alberty) Rechner, Annette was the seventh of ten children. She noted that she and her siblings, “grew and learned and loved and teased and quarreled and were happy together.” She attended St. Joseph in Appleton and St. Mary’s High School in Marinette, Wisconsin. A firm love for the Notre Dame Sisters and the Capuchin Priests developed during her education. She professed first vows on July 20, 1939 and was given the name Jean Louise after her parents. She received a bachelor’s from Mount Mary University, Milwaukee, in 1951.



Sister Jean was first missioned to teach at Holy Angels School in West Bend, Wisconsin. She taught, first, second and third grades there for 16 years also teaching the First Communion Class.

Sister Jean Louise ministered for 39 years in Catholic education, teaching in Wisconsin at St. Boniface, Milwaukee; Holy Angels, West Bend; St. Aloysius, West Allis; Mary Queen of Heaven, West Allis; St. Mary, Port Washington; and at All Saints in Logansport, Indiana. She served in school administration at St. Anne in Escanaba, Michigan.

After teaching she was called to be a community leader at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Convent in Mt. Calvary, Wisconsin. In 1986, at age 68 she began a new ministry to seniors in Milwaukee at Cherry Court and later at Convent Hill. It was a special time for her to live among strangers who quickly became friends to interact joyfully, to recognize their needs and to be “sister” to all. She retired in 1997 and served in prayer and presence at Notre Dame of Elm Grove until her death.

She is survived by nieces, nephews, dear friends and the SSND Community. Preceded in death her parents, her brothers Louis, Carl, John, Robert, Francis and her sisters Rita, Genevieve, Amelia and Helen. Memorial contributions may be made to the School Sisters of Notre Dame Retirement Fund, c/o Resource Development, 13105 Watertown Plank Road, Elm Grove, WI 53122 or online at www.ssndcentralpacific.org/Partner/Donation.

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