

March 13, 2018

**Sister M. Ellene Gross, SSND  
Home service, nursing assistant and home health aide**

**Mankato, Minnesota** – Sister M. Ellene Gross, SSND, died February 28, 2018, at Notre Dame Health Care, Mankato, Minnesota. She was 92, and served in home service, as a nursing assistant and home health aide.

The funeral mass was celebrated March 7 at Our Lady of Good Counsel chapel, followed by burial at Good Counsel Cemetery.

Sister Ellene was born in Napoleon, North Dakota. She entered the congregation of the School Sisters of Notre Dame in 1942 and professed final vows in 1945.



Following profession, Sister Ellene was missioned to St. Agnes, St. Paul as a home service sister. From 1948 until 1955, she was the home service sister at Holy Family, Clarkston, Washington. Following one year in food service at the motherhouse, Sister Ellene served as homemaker for St. Michael Convent, St. Michael, Minnesota, from 1956-1958. She served at St. Joseph, Grenville, South Dakota, as the chief cook for the school hot lunch program in addition to her convent responsibilities. From there, she served in various capacities at Good Counsel Hill from 1961 through 1977, with the exception of spending three years at Sacred Heart, St. Paul. In 1977, Sister Ellene became the home service sister for St. Matthew, St. Paul. She returned to North Dakota in 1985, providing a variety of services including caring for an elderly resident in Bismarck. In 1993, she moved back to her hometown of Napoleon to care for her ailing father. After his death in 1998, she volunteered in parish ministry at St. Phillip Neri Parish in Napoleon until 2005. Sister Ellene returned to Good Counsel Hill, residing first at Marian Hall before moving to Notre Dame Health Care.

Sister Ellene is survived by her sisters, Helen Schmidt, Eleanor Waelhof and Phyllis Babnick, and her brother, Adam. Memorial contributions may be made to the School Sisters of Notre Dame, Resource Development, 170 Good Counsel Drive, Mankato, MN 56001 or online at <https://www.ssndcentralpacific.org/give>.