



Sister Marie Sulpice Walsh
Sept. 9, 1922 – Feb. 28, 2019



BALTIMORE - Sister Marie Sulpice died peacefully on February 28, 2019 at Maria Health Care Center in Baltimore. She was a vowed member of the School Sisters of Notre Dame for 73 years. A native of Baltimore and ministering most of her life in the Baltimore area, Sister Marie Sulpice is described as a woman ahead of her time and a leader who often chose to act quietly when possible and boldly when necessary. She was a woman of integrity, the ultimate teacher, a trusted confidant and wise counselor.

A daughter, Mary Ann, was born to John Joseph, Jr. and Agnes Dwyer Walsh on Sept. 9, 1922 in Baltimore, Md. Mary Ann Walsh was baptized at St. Mark Church, Catonsville, Md. on Sept. 24, 1922 by the pastor, Rev. E. A. Williams. The Walsh family included Mary Ann's sister, Helen Agnes and her brothers, John Joseph III and Francis Patrick.

Mary Ann attended elementary school at St. Ann's School in Baltimore and high school at the Institute of Notre Dame, graduating on June 13, 1940. At IND, she was the chairperson of Our Lady's committee of the Sodality. In her 1940 yearbook, Mary Ann is described as "ever brave and ever nobly devoted." She worked as a secretary for three years before entering the School Sisters of Notre Dame.

Mary Ann entered the candidature from her home parish, St. Ann's on Aug. 29, 1943. At her reception into the novitiate on July 16, 1946, Mary Ann received the name, Marie Sulpice and professed her first vows on July 31, 1946.

Sister Marie Sulpice was sent to her first mission as third grade teacher at St. Leo's School, Irvington, N.J. (1946-47). In Dec., 1947, she moved on to teach seventh, then eighth grade at St. Mark School, Catonsville, Md. (1947-1958). Her next assignment was as principal at St. Joseph's School, Mechanicsburg, Penn. (1958-64). Sister spent

one year at St. Brigid's School, Baltimore as eighth grade teacher (1964-65), then returned to St. Mark's School as principal (1965-71). She was principal at Notre Dame Prep Lower School, Baltimore (1972-1979).

She became Pastoral Minister at All Saints Parish, Baltimore and moved into St. Lawrence Convent, Baltimore, a newly founded community (1979-1983). In 1983, she became Provincial Secretary to Sister Patricia Flynn. She remained as secretary to Provincial Leaders: Christine Mulcahy and Jane Burke (1983-2000). Sister Sulpice provided volunteer service to the SSND community at the College of Notre Dame of Maryland and at the SSND archives (2001-2013) before moving to prayer and presence at Villa Assumpta.

In addition to the Normal School certificate Sister Sulpice received as a candidate, she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in History degree from the College of Notre Dame of Maryland (now University) in 1965 and a Master of Arts in Education with a major in Counseling and Guidance from Villanova University in 1973.

Sister was amazing in her humanity and spirituality. She took time to notice others, understood their situation, was supportive and encouraging. Villa Assumpta Sisters said that she did so many kind things and never told anyone. She was known in her family as Sulpice, the fixer. Always ready with a well turned phrase and lively sense of humor, Sulpice was well read, precise in her use of language and devoted to use of the dictionary.

Sister Sulpice lived her life in the enduring, eternal presence of God. A quote from relative, Gene Walsh, SS guided her. "Jesus promises you two things: Your life has meaning and you're going to live forever. *If you get a better offer, take it.*"

Sister Marie Sulpice died peacefully on February 28, 2019 at Maria Health Care Center. The Christian Wake Service was held on March 7 and the Liturgy of Christian Burial was concelebrated on March 8. Both services were held in the Chapel of Villa Assumpta. Rev. John McCloskey OFM Cap., Villa Assumpta chaplain, was the celebrant of the liturgy. Concelebrating were Mgrs. Jay O'Conner and Rev. John Dietzenbach, friends of Sister Sulpice from her time as Pastoral Minister at All Saints Parish, Baltimore. Interment followed at Villa Maria Cemetery, Glen Arm Rd, Glen Arm, Md. Sister Marie Sulpice is survived by nephews: Michael, Tim and Brian Bateman.

- Sister Jeanne Hildenbrand