



**Sister Lucy Caporaso, SSND**  
**June 16, 1945 – June 13, 2019**



**Wilton, Connecticut** - Sister Lucy Caporaso, SSND, 74, died at Lourdes Health Care Center in Wilton late in the evening of June 13, 2019. She was a vowed member of the School Sisters of Notre Dame for 54 years. Sister Lucy ministered as an educator, director of Religious Ed, and of Admissions, and as an administrator throughout Connecticut for 43 years, including leadership roles at Trumbull Catholic Regional, Diocese of Bridgeport and Notre Dame High School.

Lucy was a native of Bridgeport, born on June 16, 1945, and baptized Lucy Concetta, on August 12 at Holy Rosary Church. Lucy started school in 1950 at Barnum School in Bridgeport and made her First Communion in 1955. She was ten when Bishop Shehan confirmed her. At Read School she completed elementary education, graduating in June 1959. The Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur taught Lucy at Notre Dame Catholic High School in Bridgeport, where she was very active in sports, especially basketball and softball. She planned to major in physical education.

Lucy wrote that she often thought of becoming a sister, and at the end of her junior year, postulants from Wilton came to Holy Rosary for a basketball practice. After meeting and talking with them she decided to enter. The following Sept. 7, 1963 did. The postulancy, Lucy wrote, had many happy and memorable days and laughter was never missing. Basketball and softball teams had very good seasons, even if she did break her finger and sprain her ankle. “Spiritually we received the necessary help to guide us throughout the postulate into the novitiate and help us on the road to perfection.”

Sister Lucy attributed her vocation to “her wonderful parents and family for it was in my home that the seeds of my vocation took root.” On August 3, 1964, Reception Day, Lucy received the religious name Leonard Mary in honor of her father. A year later, on

August 5, she made first profession, and five years later, on July 19, 1970, final profession. She received a B.A. in Education in 1971 from the College of Notre Dame of Wilton.

Leonard Mary, as her first assignment, helped to open St. Catherine of Siena School in Trumbull, Conn. She was there six years before going for one year to St. John Evangelist School in Leonia, New Jersey. Twelve years at St. Lawrence in Huntington, Conn, followed, and then six years at Trumbull Catholic Regional School, where she was associate administrator. At Gaylord Rehabilitation Hospital in the early 90s, Lucy was a student preparing to become a chaplain, before her return to full time teaching at St. Rose School, In Newtown, Conn. After six years at Holy Spirit School in Stamford, she became director of Admissions at Notre Dame High School in Fairfield, until 2003. She was also elected to the Council of Religious Sisters and Brothers in the Diocese of Bridgeport.

Everywhere she served, Sister Lucy continued her love for sports by organizing teams, coaching, and advising cheerleaders; she helped organize the Girls' Suburban Basketball and Softball League in the Trumbull area, and directed a summer sports camp. "I realize how much sports can contribute to a child's maturing process," she is quoted as saying in the *Fairfield County Catholic*.

At multi-cultural Holy Spirit School, with her friend Sister Marie Vianney as principal, she involved students in decision making about academic and community-related activities. These included an active Student Council, collecting boots for Kids in Crisis, a city program for children in need; making cookies for the residents of a nearby convalescent home, a Science Club that worked with the Stamford Museum, Spanish classes for kindergartners, and Valentines for Wilton sisters. In May 1976, she appeared with nine other SSNDs who were "Named Outstanding Elementary Teachers of America."

Sister Shawn Kavanagh presided over the Christian Wake Service on June 19, with her sisters, Sandra and Lenore, their children and grandchildren and other relatives present, as well as many friends, the VND community, and nine members of Lucy's "Krowd," four of whom are presently SSNDs. Sister Marie Vianney's brother Father Tom Gallagher was celebrant and homilist at the Liturgy of Christian Burial the next morning. Fathers Tom Elliott, VND chaplain, Robert Crowfut, and Floyd Caesar concelebrated. Burial followed at St. Mary Cemetery in Bethel, Conn.

Memorial contributions may be made to the School Sisters of Notre Dame, Atlantic  
Midwest Province, c/o Development Office, 345 Belden Hill Road, Wilton, Conn. 06897  
or online: [www.amssnd.org](http://www.amssnd.org)