

February 7, 2019

Sister Clara Ruesch, SSND
Teacher, librarian, homemaker

Elm Grove, Wisconsin – Sister Clara (formerly Mary Myron) Ruesch died at Notre Dame of Elm Grove, in Elm Grove, Wisconsin, Thursday, January 31, 2019. She was 94 and a former teacher, librarian and homemaker.

The funeral Mass was held February 5 at Notre Dame of Elm Grove, Elm Grove, Wisconsin. Burial was at the Notre Dame of Elm Grove Cemetery.

Sister Clara was born in Vesper, Wisconsin. She entered the congregation of the School Sisters of Notre Dame in 1939 and professed first vows in 1944.



In 1953, she earned a bachelor's degree in social science from Mount Mary College (now University), Milwaukee.

After first profession, Sister Clara taught second grade at Christ King School in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin (1944-1953). She then went on to teach at St. Francis Xavier, Superior, Wisconsin (1953-1954); St. Henry's, Watertown, Wisconsin (1956-1961); St. James, Mukwonago, Wisconsin (1961-1962); and St. Elizabeth's, Milwaukee (1962-1964). She ended her teaching ministry by returning to St. Henry's (1967-1970). She underwent thyroid surgery in 1954 and spent two years recuperating and working in housekeeping at Notre Dame of Elm Grove.

Sister Clara traveled to Rome and Munich in 1969 to learn more about Catholic church and SSND history. After her return, she served as a sacristan, tutor, librarian and worked in the print shop at Notre Dame of the Lake in Mequon, Wisconsin. In 1974, she served in the learning center at St. John's School, Marshfield, Wisconsin. She served at St. John Kanty, Milwaukee, as librarian and media specialist and at Sacred Heart School, Allenton, Wisconsin, as a catechetical assistant.

Sister Clara returned to Notre Dame of the Lake in 1979, where she was engaged in the host bakery and also served doing general work. From 1983-1987, she served as the housekeeper at the Marshall Street motherhouse in Milwaukee and then went to Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Mt. Calvary, Wisconsin, where she was engaged in part-time community service. She fully retired in 2012 to Notre Dame of Elm Grove.

Memorial contributions may be made to the School Sisters of Notre Dame, Resource Development, 13105 Watertown Plank Road, Elm Grove, WI 53122 or online at <https://www.ssndcentralpacific.org/give>.