SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS
PO BOX 100 OLDENBURG, IN 47036
WWW.OLDENBURGFRANCISCANS.ORG
FACEBOOK: FRANCISCAN SISTERS OF OLDENBURG

S. ALICE ANN DEARDORFF, OSF

January 26, 2015

Dear Sisters, Associates, Co-Workers, Relatives and Friends,

Haiku
The joy of children
Simple, heart-warming, playful
Freely shared with me.

Beloved child of God, Sister Alice Ann Deardorff, died peacefully at 6:30 a.m. on Friday, January 23.

Alice Ann (Rita), the daughter of George and Elizabeth (Vaughan) Deardorff, was born in Indianapolis on May 19, 1925. While growing up during the Depression years, Alice Ann attended St. Joan of Arc Elementary School and St. Mary Academy. When she was twelve years old, her sister Alice died, an event that was life-changing for Alice Ann. The Oldenburg Franciscans at St. Mary Academy attended the funeral, impressing the grieving family.

During high school Alice Ann learned to drive a car, took piano lessons, witnessed her dad's conversion to Catholicism, and worked part-time at Murphy's Dime Store. Following graduation, Alice Ann entered the convent at Oldenburg, but health problems forced her to return home. After regaining her health, she reentered the convent in February of 1947.

August of 1948 marked the beginning of S. Alice Ann's long career of teaching primary grades. She loved small children and became a master teacher. Every aspect of teaching seemed to delight her, but preparing countless children for First Communion was something that she deemed a privilege.

One day my six-year-old niece and nephew were visiting at Oldenburg and naturally gravitated to the table where Alice Ann was seated. She asked them where they would be attending first grade. Because of their height, another Sister commented that surely they were older than that. Alice Ann winked at me and said, "I know when I'm talking to first grade material."

In September of 2000, Alice Ann retired to Oldenburg where she worked in the stamp room, visited Sisters in St. Clare Hall, and spent time developing her love for Mary, the Mother of God, and for the rosary. She also began a ministry of baking cookies for many Sisters and co-workers. Birthdays and special occasions were marked by her personal delivery of tins of assorted cookies.

It's difficult to track how influential a life has been, but it's safe to say that hundreds of children felt confident in reading and basic math because S. Alice Ann Deardorff devoted her life to that ministry. She brought simple, heart-warming, playful joy to our Franciscan community and we now celebrate a life well-lived.

In gratitude,

Sister Margie Niemer OSF

S. Margie Niemer, OSF
for the Council

S. ALICE ANN DEARDORFF:

Birth:	May 19, 1925
Entrance into Religious Life:	February 2, 1947
Entrance into Eternal Life:	January 23, 2015

MISSIONS AT WHICH S. ALICE ANN SERVED:

1948-1949	Holy Cross, St. Louis, MO
1949-1956	St. Ann, Hamilton, OH
1956-1958	St. Anthony, Dayton, OH
1958-1961	St. Mark, Indianapolis, IN
1961-1964	St. Anthony, Dayton, OH
1964-1968	Our Lady of Lourdes, Indianapolis, IN
1968-1970	St. Mary, Aurora, IN
1970-1975	Holy Trinity, Indianapolis, IN
1975-2000	Little Flower, Indianapolis, IN
2000-2015	Motherhouse, Oldenburg, IN

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Weigel Funeral Home – visit their website to view Sister's online memorial, and if desired, an online condolence may be left on the site to share with her family and the Franciscan Sisters – www.Weigelfh.com

Memorial Donations in Sister's memory may be given online at www.OldenburgFranciscans.org