

Death Notice

SISTER ROSE MARIA

ND 3778

formerly Sister Mary Ferdinand

Laurena Rose MOSER

Immaculate Conception Province, Chardon, USA

Date and Place of Birth: July 13, 1923 Defiance County, Ohio

Date and Place of Profession: August 10, 1943 Toledo, Ohio

Date and Place of Death: June 11, 2024 Sylvania, Ohio



All to Jesus Through Mary

Sister Rose Maria served God and the mission of the Sisters of Notre Dame through 30 years of teaching and 30 years as Adoration Sister and Archival secretary in the Sisters' Generalate in Rome. She radiated joy and graciousness to family, students, staff, and Sisters throughout her 100 years of aging gracefully and in her 80 years of commitment in her religious community.

Laurena was the youngest of eight children in the family of Peter and Catherine (Steffel) Moser. As an infant Laurena had very delicate health. Overwhelmed by her child's illness, the mother prayed to the Blessed Virgin Mary that her baby would either get well or be taken to heaven soon. Laurena recovered so well that she outlived all her family members, the only one to celebrate a hundredth birthday.

Laurena followed in the footsteps of her older sister, Agnes (Sister Mary Carmel), who entered the Sisters of Notre Dame 6 years earlier. In 1938 Laurena became an aspirant in her sophomore year. In 1941 when Laurena was invested in the habit of the Sisters of Notre Dame, she took the name Sister Mary Ferdinand, later changed to Sister Rose Maria. Her love of Mary led her to nurture a deep devotion to Rosa Mystica and to collect various pictures of Mary.

Sister was an educator for 30 years teaching elementary students for 14 years and high school students for 16 years. Her area of expertise was in math, but she also taught religion and German.

In 1973 she eagerly joined the Motherhouse community of the Sisters of Notre Dame in Rome, Italy, where she spent many hours in prayer as an Adoration Sister and performed secretarial work until 2003. When in Rome, Sister had opportunities to travel throughout Italy and Germany for which she read extensively to be a good tour guide. Upon returning to the United States in 2003, she ministered in the library and found joy in taking care of flowers and plants, putting puzzles together, and upgrading her computer skills. Her memory served her well until her last days as she shared stories of family and friends and listened attentively to everyone's stories. Wherever Sister Rose Maria was, whatever she was doing, she radiated her love of being a Sister of Notre Dame. On June 11, 2024, in the presence of her niece, Sister Mary Rose Moser, who is also a Sister of Notre Dame, she slowly breathed her last breath and entered eternal peace.

May she now rest in eternal peace in the heart of her Beloved.