

Sister JoAnn Faust, C.PP.S.

Born: August 10, 1944

Professed: August 10, 1965

Entered into Life: December 18, 2022

Verse on her memorial card:

“In you, my God, I place my trust.”

Psalm 91



December 19, 2022

Dear Sisters,

At approximately 3:25 p.m. on Sunday, December 18, 2022, Sister JoAnn Faust was freed from pain and received into the tender care of God. Throughout this Advent season, her desire, as expressed in the words of her favorite psalm, was clear: “My soul longs for you, O God” (*Psalm 42:2*). On the final Sunday of Advent, her longing was fulfilled.

JoAnn Faust was born in Junction City, Kansas, on August 10, 1944, the first of seven children of James and Alvina (Mehrtens) Faust. Her father was serving in the military, and the family moved from Kansas to Louisiana to Arkansas before settling in Fenton, MO. JoAnn quipped that this prepared her for her future vocation as she learned “to sit loose” and to be always ready to pack and move to another mission.

JoAnn was taught by our sisters at St. Paul in Fenton and at St. John the Baptist High School. She received the first nudges of her vocation during her grade school years. However, she wrote in her autobiography that the call was not clear, “I could not decide whether I would be a nun or an acrobat.” What a classic example of JoAnn’s quick and whimsical sense of humor!

During her high school years, the Lord nudged JoAnn harder, and her dreams of being an acrobat vanished. She entered our novitiate on July 25, 1963, and she received the name Sister Marguerite. She professed first vows on August 10, 1965, her 21st birthday.

JoAnn completed a Bachelor of Arts degree in History at Webster University, and she received a Certificate in Gerontological Studies from St. Mary-of-the-Woods College in Indiana.

JoAnn taught elementary grades at three Missouri Schools: St. Joseph School in Rhineland, All Saints School in St. Peters, and St. Lawrence the Martyr in Bridgeton.

She used her excellent organizational skills in her service as the congregation's Secretary General and as the secretary for St. Mary's Academy. For twenty-seven years, she served in various capacities, from Activities Aide to Site Manager, at St. Elizabeth Adult Day Care Centers. There she extended loving compassion honed through her own suffering.

JoAnn was a quiet, behind-the-scenes person. Countless meetings, programs, and activities were executed flawlessly because of JoAnn's planning and attention to detail. No task was too small or too great, and she exuded a sense of calm even in the face of looming deadlines.

JoAnn had many interests. She enjoyed sports, especially Cardinal baseball and the Kentucky Derby. She learned to play the piano at an early age and had a life-long appreciation of music. She enjoyed serving as an usher at the Fox Theater. An avid learner, JoAnn enjoyed reading and watching documentaries on PBS. And, perhaps most of all, she treasured being with her family.

Over the past thirty years, she had several close brushes with death. Despite that, or perhaps because of that, Sister JoAnn remained focused on others, always concerned for their welfare. She was the epitome of kindness, gentleness, and patience.

Sister JoAnn was preceded in death by her parents. She is survived by her sisters, Kay (James) Phillips, Karen (William) Modrosic, and Gail (Gene) Tinsley; by her brothers, James (Ann), Alan (Karen), and Wayne (Michelle) Faust. Let us hold them in prayer as they grieve the loss of the earthly presence of their dear sister.

We will welcome Sister JoAnn's body to St. Joseph's Chapel at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, December 21, 2022. The wake will open to the public at 9:30. We will gather for Sharing of Memories at 1 p.m. and the Mass of Christian Burial will be at 1:30 p.m.

Sister JoAnn is "home for Christmas" as she longed to be. We rejoice with her, and we pray for all who are experiencing a yearning in their hearts created by the loss of her physical presence among us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sr. Janice Bader". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid and personal.

Sr. Janice Bader