



## Sister Dolores Enderle, OP

Born to earthly life: August 8, 1925  
Religious profession: August 5, 1947  
Entered eternal life: May 4, 2019

*“Those who instruct many in justice  
will shine like stars forever.”*

*Daniel 12:3*

**E**VEN AS A CHILD, DOLORES ENDERLE FELT SHE WAS MEANT TO BE A SISTER, though she thought she would become a Maryknoll missionary. For three of her grade school years and her four high school years, she was taught by Racine Dominicans, who seemed “down to earth,” a community she felt she “could fit in with.”

For over 70 years she indeed did “fit in” and served the community as teacher and college president, in community leadership, as coordinator of student financial aid/grant writing, and as historical writer. She earned a Bachelor’s degree from the College of St. Catherine in Minnesota, a Master’s degree from Notre Dame University, and a Ph.D. from Ball State University, Indiana.

Dolores and her twin sister, Marie, were the youngest of five children born to Joseph and Marie Enderle of Detroit, both of whom emigrated from Hungary. Her parents had little money but still managed to make holidays special for their family, and their simple giving taught Dolores the great value of small gifts proffered from the heart.

S. Dolores found her most meaningful experiences in ministry were those of working with minority students in the Career Opportunity Program at Dominican College in the 1970s and with the Sacred Heart Southern Mission in the late 1990s. There she coordinated a financial aid program in Mississippi for students who wanted to attend Catholic schools. Whether teacher, counselor or school president, she was fiercely dedicated to the young people in her care.

“S. Dolores and S. Regina had the greatest impact on my life and my career path,” reflected Jeff Rasmussen, a student of both professors at Dominican College. “S. Dolores was a spitfire! She pushed and pushed for me to be awarded a teaching internship. Because of S. Dolores, I was able to achieve success and enjoyment in my career as an English teacher.”

Even as a young middle school teacher, she had an indelible impact. “S. Andre (*the name Dolores received upon becoming a Racine Dominican novice*), was a great teacher. I loved her dearly and appreciate all she taught me back in 1952-54,” Julie Beyer Pake said of her fifth and sixth grade teacher.

The consummate English teacher and writer, S. Dolores held the same high standards for her nieces and nephews as she did for her students. “We learned to write thank you notes, and S. Dolores wrote the most beautiful letters back – and with them came our notes to her with corrections in red ink!” her niece Melissa remembered fondly.

Whether in the Siena choir or the RDR elevator, S. Dolores loved to sing. “She was so delightful, “ S. Clarice Sevegney recalled frequent shared elevator rides. “She routinely exited singing, ‘So long, farewell, Auf Wiedersehen, adieu’ and made me smile every time!”

“It is hard to say so long, farewell to such a wonderful woman,” S. Kathy Slesar noted in welcoming mourners to S. Dolores’ funeral. “We are glad and grateful for this faithful witness and the gift S. Dolores was to each of us. We truly celebrate today a life richly blessed.”