



Sister Teresa Marian Case, SC

Entered eternal life on April 7, 2020

As I walking down memory lane to gather some pictures of the “real” Sister Teresa Marian to share with you, a smart, focused, animated Social Studies teacher came to mind; one who knew, respected, taught and emphasized the dates and places of all historical events. So, it is only right that a dated account of her life is presented with the hope that a vivid picture will come forth and the story will do her justice.

Monday, April 22, 1935, Jersey City, New Jersey - A daughter is born to Mary and John Case, probably in Margaret Hague Maternity Hospital, where most Hudson County babies came to life at that time.

Sunday, May 12, 1935, Harrison, New Jersey - Mary and John’s daughter was baptized in Holy Cross Church. Her parents named her Mary Agnes, and in time her family called her “Cookie”.

September 1941, Holy Cross School, Harrison, New Jersey - Cookie set off to kindergarten to make new friends and to gather what she thought were important facts of life. Her interests were many and learning came easy. She graduated from the eighth grade in June 1949.

September, 1949, Our Lady Queen of Peace High School, North Arlington, New Jersey - Cookie began a high school “career” and journeyed for four years at high speed – quick to learn, sensitive and caring, inquisitive and sometimes faced with serious moments of wonder and questioning. She graduated from high school in June 1953.

Saturday, September, 6, 1953, Convent Station, New Jersey - Mary Agnes Case entered the Novitiate of the Sisters of Charity. This intelligent, energetic, sensitive and adventuresome young woman brought energy to every situation...serious or frivolous. She questioned everything either for interest or challenge. She knew and responded when another postulant was having a bad day; and always had a Loft’s Praline at hand for someone’s comfort. She had many walks to Nazareth Park where perhaps her most fervent prayers were heard.

Saturday, March 7, 1954, Convent Station, New Jersey - Moving on in religious formation, Mary Agnes Case became a Novice. She was given the name Sister Teresa Marian, and in time the “band” called her “Treat”. This day marked the beginning of wondering, questioning, praying and perhaps realizing that God knew Treat better than she knew herself. She continued to question, care, console, laugh and enjoy life – and to grow in wisdom, age and grace.

Friday, March 8, 1955, Convent Station, New Jersey - Sister Teresa Marian professed her vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. She publicly professed to live a life of serving God through her faithfulness to the mission and ministry of the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth. Following this day was a year of personal formation and academic study.

August 1956, Convent Station, New Jersey - The time came for Sister Teresa (and thirty-eight other young Sisters) to be assigned to active ministry in the fields of education, health care and social services.

Treat, with her perspective of life centered on God's call, began an active ministry in the field of education. This ministry brought her to elementary schools where she taught for twenty-eight years. She developed in her students a thirst for learning and expanded their knowledge of the fundamentals of Social Studies, English and Mathematics. Her expertise as an educator brought her to school administration. She served as a principal for eight years enriching the lives of teachers and students alike. The next ten years of active ministry brought her to the Finance Office of the Congregation. Here, as in all of her ministries, she was a focused and generous worker, one who was an asset to the ministry.

January - 2010-2020, Convent Station, NJ - As energy lessened and healthcare needs became apparent, Treat settled into a quiet life at the Mother House. Here she continued to be ever attentive, ever entertaining, and comfortably up and about as she saw fit. At the proper time for her, she moved to Saint Joseph Healthcare and Rehab Center, Cedar Grove. There she received the daily loving care she so deserved. With familiar ease, she continued to show interest in and concern for others, especially for our Sisters who looked forward to seeing her every day.

2020 - The gift of Life Eternal has been given to our sister by a loving God who journeyed with her every day of her life here on earth. May she now rest in peace and intercede for us who rejoice in the gift she continues to be for all of us.

Sister Maureen Dunne, SC