



**Sister Dolores Walsh, SC**  
Entered eternal life on March 30, 2020

“It’s the reality” was one of Sister Dolores Walsh’s hallmark expressions!

No pretense, no sugar coating, an independent thinker. She was a forward thinker, but didn’t sway with every turn of the wind. What you saw was what you got – this was Dolores! And these were characteristics that remained with her all through her almost 80 years.

Dolores was an only child born to Florence Scanlan Walsh and Dan two months after I was born. Dolores was an only child, but had a vast army of cousins. They were her extended family and she was very much part of their lives, as they were of hers. If you knew Dolores, you knew her two uncles, Bill and Thomas.

Growing up, Dolores was always the model child; as a matter fact, we grew up together as our mothers were best friends. My mother would often say “Dolores would never do that” and “Dolores would never answer Florrie like that.”

She lived in in Jersey City right across from Saint Patrick’s Church. St. Pat’s played a central part in her life as it was for all of us in Jersey City in those days. The biggest thrill that we could have was to be invited to come to the convent on a Saturday – to dust!!

Dolores went to Saint Patrick’s grammar school and then on to the Academy of Saint Aloysius where she was an outstanding member of the Sodality, the basketball team and glee club, to name a few. She was a faithful friend to many throughout her life – certainly to Bea Guider and Mary Jane O’Hare.

After her formation years Dolores, who had majored in education, went on to teach and also to be a principal - - she also decided that neither of those were for her!

She entered a rigorous program at St. Raphael’s Hospital and became a certified pastoral minister. This calling factored in to her hospital chaplaincy at United Hospital Center in Clarksburg West Virginia where she served joyfully and effectively for 19 years.

Dolores had an innate ability to let go and move on. After she returned to Convent, she enjoyed volunteering at the Villa, catching up with old friends and family – and especially enjoyed her beautiful room at the Motherhouse — with three windows!

Beyond the biographical facts, was Dolores’s spirit of faith, thoughtfulness, appreciation, grit and patience. This was recently seen in her struggle with being in pain and being bedridden for most of the past two years. She never lost the hope, despite the many periods of progress and setbacks, that she would go from St. Joseph’s in Cedar Grove back to Convent one day. She was always grateful for the care she received from the staff and for visits from the Sisters and her friends, especially if they came bearing a chocolate milkshake!

Dolores’s signature telephone sign-off was always “thanks for the call”. Thank you, Dolores, for answering your call to being a faithful Sister of Charity for the past 62 years!

Sister Pat Butler, SC