

Jottings

The AIC / MHA Alumnae Newsletter
Spring 2016



Alum finds a “mission” in second career

By Martha Rasche '82

In December of 2013, I turned 50.

The next month, I left a 25-year career in journalism and the hometown newspaper that had employed me for nearly 20 of those years. I spent 2014 laying the groundwork for my new endeavor of helping seniors write their life stories. I believe strongly that we need to write down the stories of our loved ones so they last more than a generation or two. What I wouldn't give to know more about the personal lives of my grandparents! But I realize that most seniors won't just break out into written words, so I left my full-time job to do my part to help them.

Early in the following year — 2015 — a diagnosis of cancer upended my life.

That's not the way I had planned it. I really couldn't afford a break in my Life Stories work, which was starting to gain momentum. Most promising, I had met with representatives of a local nursing home's parent company about their implementing a Life Stories program in all 17 of their Indiana facilities.

The idea for my Life Stories work had been planted in 1996, when I used three vacation days from my job as a reporter for the *South Bend Tribune* to interview my father about his life. The interviews took place on the rural Jasper farm where I grew up and where my father had lived since moving in with his godparents there as a grade-schooler in the early 1930s.

My father, 75, had been diagnosed with leukemia a couple decades before, and by the time we sat down to talk about his life, he also had lung cancer and skin cancer. He was frail. He sat in the recliner in the living

room, whence he could look out the south and west windows and see the weathered, century-old barn and red chickenhouse, cropland as well as woodland, and traffic passing on the county road that provided his address. It was his favorite seat in the house. On Day 1,

he tolerated my questions. By Day 3, he had opened up more than I had hoped for, and I broached the topics of his declining health and his brother's suicide some 30 years earlier.

With time out for coughing spells, my dad kept up with my questions. During our time together, I especially noticed how it tired him to walk even from the living room to the adjacent kitchen for light meals. When he walked to the bathroom, just one

more door away, he needed to sit down to rest along the way.

I intended to write my father's life story for our family, and especially for him, to read and enjoy. He and my mom each had only an eighth-grade education and raised nine children with only a farmer's income. I wanted the written story to help my dad see the many accomplishments that he and so many others like him didn't think of as anything extraordinary. By 1996 (and even more so in 2016) I knew that his strong work ethic, persistence, and loyalty were not to be taken for granted.

Four months after those interviews, my father died. Some of his stories ended up in his eulogy, which I wrote and delivered, long before they were joined into a book with later interviews of my mother.

That's not the way I had planned it. I should have written his story sooner.



In one of her Life Stories classes at the Older Americans Center in Jasper, Martha Rasche helps Margaret Popp write her life story.

Continued

So in 2014, I took my Life Stories classes to local nursing homes to try them out. I needed to find out what worked in a group setting and what didn't. Over the year, I led three nine-week classes. I conducted them as a volunteer, and nursing home residents participated for free.

I quickly realized that these classes differed entirely from any other activities offered at the nursing homes. For starters, the participants had to have some dexterity to use a pen (though I found a couple of volunteers for participants whose hands didn't work as well as their minds). Their mental acuity was tested and sharpened as they uncovered layers of their lives.

I saw the participants build a community among themselves. They developed a sense of belonging as they shared their experiences, those they had in common and those unique. For many of them, it was the first time in their eight and even nine decades of life that their experiences were validated. It was the first time they took pride in what they had spent a lifetime doing.

As they shared happy stories, they relived the joy. When they shared sad stories, they gave their fellow class members an opportunity to show empathy.

On the first day of class, two women — each one in separate classes — told me about having a child die in childhood. Each of the children had died of an illness, and the women had not talked about it for decades. Each woman told me she didn't think she could write about it. That was fine, I told each of them. Then I went on to share that studies have shown that writing about a personal tragedy can help one heal from it. I suggested that each woman try to write about her child's death at some time during the coming weeks. If it didn't go well, she could stop. If she ended up writing

something that she didn't want others to read, she could tear up the pages or just not include them in the overall story that she would share with family and friends.

On the last day of class, two months after the first day, I generally ask participants to share part of their stories with the group. How surprised I was when each of those women shared the story of her child's death. In each class,



As part of her scrapbooking hobby, Martha Rasche makes scrapbook pages for her youngest nieces for their birthdays each year.

when the woman finished reading, the others around the table offered sympathy, making comments such as "I'm sorry you had to go through that" and "I can't imagine how hard that was for you." In each case, a conversation about the child and the illness followed. Once the women had found the words to write about their sadness, they had the words to start talking about it — and to start releasing some of the grief they had carried with them for so long.

How powerful! Awestruck, I saw how much more could be gained from my classes than "just" documenting

life stories. I became more determined to grow my newfound work.

In January 2015, I started a class at the nursing home in Ferdinand as well as my first for-pay class at the county-wide senior center in Jasper. The for-pay class drew five participants, including two Vietnam War veterans.

The two men didn't know each other, but each routinely wears clothing that immediately distinguishes him as a Vietnam War veteran. When the second man walked into the classroom on the first day, the one already seated at the table rose and extended his hand. "Welcome home, brother," he said to the newcomer, as a lump formed in my throat. Both of the men ended up writing extensively about their Vietnam days, including looking back on the depression they experienced and the drinking they did upon coming home. I couldn't have been prouder of them and again saw how deep the emotions that accompany life stories run. I was far from making a living doing this, but I knew I had to continue helping retirees

put their lives into written words.

I invited local media to visit my classes and decided to get on the speaking circuit for local service clubs so I could explain to larger audiences what the classes offer, what I provide, and why it's so important to capture these stories before they are gone.

The group at the senior center met for its last class March 10, 2015, and the nursing home residents finished March 11.

Two days later I visited my local emergency room for the third time in a month complaining of excruciating pain on the left side of my back and

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down my left arm. My family doctor and then an orthopedist initially had suspected a pinched nerve, but it wasn't improving and the prescribed painkillers, each stronger than the last, just weren't working.

My 88-year-old mother, eight siblings, and best friend had been providing around-the-clock care for two weeks. I resisted at first but soon realized I had little choice. If I stood for even two minutes, the pain in my back and arm flared. I couldn't fix myself meals. I couldn't tend to my cats. I couldn't even unscrew some of the bottle caps to get at the ineffective drugs my doctors had prescribed.

Looking back, I don't know how I got through my final Life Stories classes, but two of my retired sisters provided transportation and I trudged on. (Given the potency of the painkillers, I had stopped driving in February; I didn't get behind the wheel again until May.)

Instead of going home from the ER on March 13 with even more-powerful drugs, I was transferred to an Indianapolis hospital.

I had cancer. Non-Hodgkin lymphoma. Stage 4. A tumor at the base of my neck, on my spine, was crushing two nerves. The week I spent in the hospital, followed by a few more, went by in a blur. Then months came in

slow motion as I received chemotherapy treatments one week, felt awful the next — now it was I who had to stop to rest on the way from my bedroom to the bathroom — and then had one good week before the cycle repeated itself.

I was deemed in remission in September. I spent the rest of the year writing the life story of a 90-year-old woman I had started interviewing in January and helping a former class participant complete writing her story to give as a Christmas gift to her children and grandchildren.

Despite months of therapy, my left hand has never regained full function and strength since the cancer zapped it. The ring finger has limited movement and, particularly vexing, can't clear the keyboard. A hand specialist has become the latest doctor I've seen in my year of medical education. Unfortunately, the occupational therapy has resulted in tears in my left rotator cuff, so that, too, needs to be dealt with.

At the beginning of this year, I started two for-pay Life Stories classes, another at the countywide senior center and one at the Ferdinand public library. A couple of other area libraries have invited me to offer classes there, and I have set a few speaking engagements. Several individuals want to hire

me to write their life stories, and I'll seal those deals as soon as I know any surgery schedules related to my left hand and shoulder.

The rock-strewn path I've been following in my second career is not the path I envisioned. But I remain convinced the Life Stories movement is where I'm meant to be.

As a former newspaper reporter, Martha Rasche, who lives in Jasper, Indiana, has written hundreds of people's stories and eulogies. She believes "It's important to document all of these stories for posterity. We all should leave more than a headstone behind when we leave this earth." Martha will lead a free Life Stories workshop during the Alumnae Weekend. The hour-long session will begin at 4 p.m. Saturday, June 25, in Monastery Event Hall. To sign up, call Martha at 812-630-8992 or email her at mtrasche@twc.com by June 18. See her blogs about her Life Stories work and her journey through cancer at TheseAreOurStories.com.

Alumnae Reunion — June 25–26, 2016

Registration Form

Return this form or complete the online form posted on the Academy web page by **June 10**. You may pay now or when you register at the reunion, but you **must preregister if you plan to attend the dinner**. Send to:

Alumnae Association
802 E. 10th Street • Ferdinand, IN 47532

Or, register online at thedome.org/alumnae.

Alumnae — \$25
 Adult guest at dinner — \$12
 Children under 12 at dinner — \$6

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Grad year _____ Phone _____

E-mail address _____

- ☐ I will attend the gathering on Saturday.
☐ I will be at the Sunday dinner.
☐ I will bring _____ guests for dinner.

Amount enclosed \$ _____

Academy Alumnae Reunion — June 25-26, 2016

From Reunion 2015:

"When our class gets together, we become AIC [MHA] students once again, reliving our wonder years."

"Reconnecting with our roots and friends from 'the hill' reminds us of where we came from and has us looking forward to the next Alumnae Day."

"I may have to go to the reunion more often because it was really awesome to reconnect with the classes of '92 and '90! There were so many wonderful people in the classes before and after ours that it would be fun to catch up with them, too!"

Return to "the hill" for Alumnae Reunion!

Whether you're in a class which is celebrating a special anniversary (class years ending in "1" or "6") or any class in between, you're invited to join us for the weekend reunion.

The fun starts on Saturday, June 25, in the Monastery Event Hall, formerly MHA gym. Come anytime between 1 and 7 p.m. EDT and have a blast! Academy girls were never at a loss for finding ways to have fun. At our January meeting, Alumnae Board members conjured up some fun games and activities to go with the reminiscing and visiting on Saturday. Activities such as trivia questions about life at the Academy, or "best uniform" contest, or Sister Jane Ann Breen's "Boot Camp."

You can buy tickets on unique and hand-crafted raffle items. Winning tickets will be drawn at dinner on Sunday. Saturday afternoon and early evening St. Benedict's Brew Works, a microbrewery in the former Academy Art Studio, will be open for you to sample and buy craft beers. Groups might consider gathering for a cookout in the outdoor classroom by the lake. (More about the Saturday events will be posted on Facebook.)



Mary Kay (Kavanaugh) Andres '61 (left) admires the quilt she won at the 2015 reunion raffle. Alumnae Association board member Catherine (Mott) Rydberg '88 made and contributed the quilt for the raffle.

Schedule for the Reunion Weekend

(Times are Eastern Daylight)

Saturday, June 25

Gathering in Monastery Event Hall (formerly MHA gym) between 1 and 7 p.m. — Enjoy the afternoon activities, including socializing with friends, sharing memorabilia and memories, visiting Monastery Gift Shop and the brewery, and attending a free Life Stories workshop presented by Martha Rasche '82 (see her story on pgs. 1-3).

Sunday, June 26

- From 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the Assembly area in the academic building — sign in, pay registration fee (if not prepaid), get dinner ticket, gather for coffee and donuts
- Mass at 10:30 a.m. in monastery church
- Following Mass, dinner in Monastery Event Hall, approximately 11:45 a.m.
- Annual meeting after the dinner — reports, updates, recognition and photos of anniversary classes, raffle drawings, prizes, and visiting
- After the meeting, visit Monastery Gift Shop and Saint Benedict's Brew Works.

Registrations due by June 10. Send in the registration form printed in this issue of *Jottings*, or register online at thedome.org/alumnae, or e-mail Sister Paulette at pseng@thedome.org. We need to know how many meals to order and how many tables and chairs to have available, so please register by June 10.

Points to remember:

- Online registration and reunion information at www.thedome.org/alumnae
- Registration deadline is June 10.
- \$25 registration fee for Alumnae Reunion — helps cover the cost of continental breakfast, dinner, Event Hall and setup, and *Jottings* newsletter. Pay when you register or when you sign in on Sunday, June 26.
- Alumnae raffle — special items (artwork, jewelry, quilt, etc. made and contributed by Alumnae Board members and other alums) will be displayed in Event Hall on Saturday and Sunday. You can purchase tickets for any items @ \$1 or 6 for \$5. Winning tickets will be drawn at the reunion dinner on Sunday.
- If you need accommodations for the weekend, check the hotel listings on page 5 and book your rooms as soon as possible. Tina Dalton, Board president, was able to reserve a block of 15 rooms until May 31 at Jasper Inn, but area hotels are filling quickly for the summer.

Contact your friends and classmates and get on board, as Ramona (Gough) Bieronski '76 did. She posted on Facebook an invitation to her classmates to return to "the hill" for the reunion. *"I am so much wishing and hoping that the gals from graduating class of 1976 would try to go to the 2016 Alumnae Reunion. It's been 40 years since we said our good-byes to one another. We were like sisters sharing our hopes and dreams living at Marian Heights Academy together. We were young school girls starting out together and becoming young ladies by the end of the Marian Heights Academy experience."*

We look forward to seeing many of you in June!

An “awesome lady”

“I’m writing to let you know of the passing of my mother, Betty June (Myers) Taft [class of 1940] on August 11, 2015. I wanted you to know that for my entire life I have heard stories about Ferdinand, the sisters, and mom’s schooling. Even 75 years after she graduated, her memories of the Academy were just like it was only yesterday.”

In that letter to the sisters, Leslie Taft gave a loving tribute to her mother and shared memories about her mom and some of her mom’s memories of life at the Academy in the late 1930s. She also included a donation, at her mother’s request before she died. When asked about sharing some of her mom’s story in *Jottings*, Leslie responded, “I don’t know of anything that would make mom happier than to have her memories of the Academy included in your issue of *Jottings*.”

From Leslie’s letter:

“Mom loved her time at Ferdinand. She made her First Communion at the Academy in 1939. If memory serves, she was friends with Mary Alice Schnur ’40, her classmate, and Ruth Schnur ’43, [both eventually entered the monastery at Ferdinand]. I know my mom and Sister Maura (Ruth) corresponded for many years. And she talked about Mary Alice [who became Sister Mary Alice]. I think their beds were close by in the dormitory. Mom told me that some nights when she would be on her knees saying her night prayers before going to bed, she would fall asleep, and Mary Alice would come over and put her into bed.

“Her favorite sisters were Sister Clarissa [principal from 1926-1943] and Sister Mary James, her typing and short-



Betty Myers' senior picture
from the Academy 1940
PAX Yearbook

hand teacher. She thought the world of Sister Mary James. She was very strict when it came to shorthand and typing, according to mom, but mom was able to type 80 words a minute and take Greg shorthand at 120 words a minute. As I went through my mom’s papers, I found shorthand and typing award certificates from 1939 and 1940 signed by Sister Mary James. One time sister made a trip to Los Angeles, and mom got to see her favorite teacher one last time.

“Mom spent her adult professional life as a legal secretary. Her specialty was probate. She worked for some of the top companies of the time – the Coca-Cola Company, Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher, and O’Melveny & Meyers in Los Angeles, where she had the opportunity to go to Alaska and draw up the legal contracts on the Alyeska oil pipeline.

“She was a devoted wife and a great mom. When my dad passed away in 2002, mom and I took an apartment together and went everywhere and did everything together. She was a second mom to all my friends, and really, to everyone she met. She always had a loving and kind word to speak to everyone.

“I owe my devotion to my Catholic faith, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the Rosary to my mom. Even during her working career, she prayed the Rosary every night before going to bed. That so impressed me as a child. In retirement, she loved to walk and would always take her Rosary with her and pray as she strolled.”

Leslie concluded, “Thank you for making Betty June Myers, who became Betty Taft, my mom, such an awesome lady! May God bless all the sisters and the work you do.”

Really, 12 restaurants?

Would you believe that Ferdinand now has 12 restaurants! But, “Ferdy Flyer,” a past favorite of Academy girls, closed recently. Anyone want to start another eatery in that building? It’s for sale.

Restaurants from south to north in town:

- Wendy’s
- McDonald’s
- Subway
- China Garden
- Taco Bell (the newest restaurant)
- American Legion
- Fleig’s Café
- Oasis Bar & Grill
- Monkey Hollow Winery & Bistro (in the historic Wollenmann House)
- Homestead Pizza (another favorite of Academy girls)
- Tres Agaves (a new Mexican restaurant)
- PJ’s BBQ

For groups wanting to make advanced arrangements, Harvest Moon Bed & Breakfast (owned by an alum) is another option.

Check them out when you’re in town for the summer reunion on June 25-26.

Area hotels

Harvest Moon Bed & Breakfast, Ferdinand	812-367-1881
Red Roof Inn, Ferdinand	812-367-1122
Comfort Inn, Ferdinand.	812-998-2121
Baymont Inn, Dale	812-937-7000
Motel 6, Dale	812-937-2294
Econo Lodge, Jasper	812-481-2008
Days Inn, Jasper.	812-482-6000
Hampton Inn, Jasper	812-481-1888
Jasper Inn, Jasper	812-482-5555
Holiday Inn Express, Jasper.	812-482-3344
Santa’s Lodge, Santa Claus.	812-937-1902
Quality Inn, Huntingburg.	812-683-2334
Rosie’s Run Vacation Rental, Ferdinand	812-630-2584
Winfield West Bed & Breakfast, Jasper	812-482-3018

News from the hill

Building update

Work has begun on converting Benet Hall, built in 1963 as a residence for the sisters, into 15 affordable housing apartments for seniors. Workers from Streicher Construction of Jasper, general contractors, started “deconstructing” the interior of the building in January in preparation for the “reconstruction,” scheduled to be completed this fall. The target date for opening Benet Hall Apartments is November 2016.

Valenti Management, the company that will manage the apartments, has started contacting and pre-screening applicants to determine whether they meet federal and state qualifications and requirements for residency. Monthly rent will be priced in compliance with affordable rates for senior citizens as set by the state. Anyone still interested in renting an apartment in Benet Hall should contact Ginny Van Kirk at 812-367-1411, ext. 2650, or at gvankirk@thedome.org.



Work is well underway for the “re-purposing,” “reconstruction” of Benet Hall into senior affordable housing units.

Sisters to celebrate golden jubilee

Sister Marilyn Schroering '64 is one of three sisters who will celebrate the 50th anniversary of their profession of monastic vows on June 18. She taught at schools in Posey County (St. Philip), Haubstadt, Evansville (Holy Spirit and Holy Redeemer), and was principal at Holy Spirit in Evansville, Holy Family in Jasper, and St. Joseph in Vanderburgh County. She served as a proctor at Marian Heights from 1984-1986. She was director of facilities at Kordes Retreat Center and worked in food services at the monastery. She currently works at the monastery switchboard and kitchen.

Sisters Joyce Marie Newton and Jennifer Miller are also in the golden jubilee class. Sister Joyce Marie currently supervises the monastery dining room, and Sister Jennifer is a chaplain for the Visiting Nurse Association Hospice Program in Evansville.



Sister Marilyn Schroering

Monastery Event Hall

Area alums are encouraged to check out the Monastery Event Hall, formerly MHA gym, as you make plans for family gatherings, anniversary and graduation parties, weddings, youth events, school functions, or any other large groups. Email eventhall@thedome.org, or call Laura at 812-367-1411, ext. 2635, or Angi at 812-367-1411 ext. 2637.



Leadership Conference for Women

Remember the sign that was displayed on the outside of Madonna Hall to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the Academy in 1995? “EDUCATING WOMEN FOR LEADERSHIP” This theme will continue to resonate at a national Catholic Leadership Conference for Women on October 7-9, 2016, “on the hill.”



Academy alumnae are invited to participate. You have been leaders in so many ways, and you continue to lead and serve others through your careers and ministries.

It's now time to treat yourself to a weekend of enrichment, education, empowerment, and affirmation. If you are currently or have been involved in any kind of church ministry or service, or if you feel “called” to be of service in your parish, school, or other church organizations or programs, this conference is for you.

The Sisters of St. Benedict of Ferdinand in partnership with Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology are hosting the event: WOMEN of the CHURCH — Strength of the past. Hope for tomorrow.

The conference will acknowledge, support, and honor the work of women in the Catholic Church. It will feature nationally-known speakers and breakout session presenters on many topics of great interest to women in the Church. Liturgies, cultural events, and fellowship will also be part of the weekend. The conference will be held at the Ferdinand monastery, Monastery Event Hall, and Ferdinand Community Center.

Registration opened in February. The conference is limited to 300 participants, so register soon if you want to attend. An “early bird rate” of \$150 is available until July 15. To register go to www.saintmeinrad.org/wotc-registration.

See www.womenofthechurch.org to learn more about this event. Even if you can't attend, you'll be excited to see what's happening “on the hill” at this national conference.

Our deepest thanks!



Sister Barbara
Lynn Schmitz,
Prioress

We, the Sisters of St. Benedict of Ferdinand, express our heartfelt gratitude to the Academy alumnae — students and staff — who have so generously helped support our monastic community and our ministries the past year.

You have made contributions to the sisters in various ways. You are volunteers, helping with projects and tasks, such as housekeeping, maintenance, outdoor work, driving, working in the bakery, etc. You contribute “gifts in kind,” tangible gifts such as food, vehicles, and technology equipment. You serve “unofficially” as ambassadors of the Sisters of St. Benedict.

You also make financial contributions to enable us to continue our service to others through our ministries, and to provide care for our elderly and infirm sisters. Making a donation in memory of or in honor of someone, or responding to an “appeal letter” for a fundraising project are some of the ways alums contribute. Some alums have also joined a “giving group.” Currently, 16 alums are members of the “Women of the Rule” philanthropy circle, 41 are “Partners of the Sisters,” and 57 are members of the St. Hildegard Society, a planned giving group. You can learn more about ways to give by visiting our website at www.thedome.org and clicking on “Make a Gift.” With your contributions, you help sustain a vibrant Benedictine community and also help us serve others.

We are happy to have you as a part of our Benedictine family. Together we can change people’s lives and make our world a better place.

In our Mission Advancement database, we have current addresses for 1548 Academy alumnae, including 122 former staff members. About 20% of our alums have contributed a total of \$134,585.69 to the Sisters of St. Benedict in 2015.

Below is a summary of the top contributions made by classes and a list of the classes with the highest percentage of members who made contributions.

Top five classes for contributions:

1965	\$23,137.00
1956	\$ 9,894.66
1960	\$ 5,860.22
1959	\$ 5,435.00
1963	\$ 5,379.04

Classes with highest percentage of donors:

1940, 1942, 1945, 1953	50%
1950, 1963, 1965	48%
1960, 1966	46%
1955	40%
1947, 1948	38%

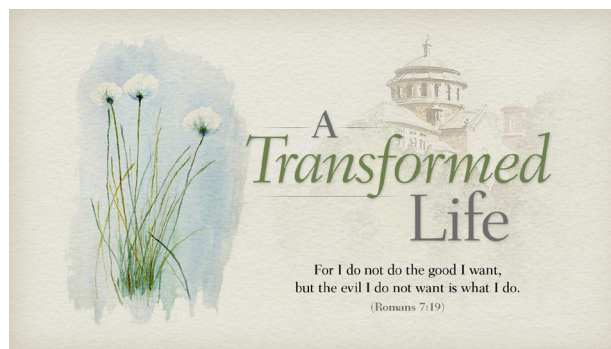
Our deepest thanks! We pray for you and ask that you do the same for us.

God bless you and your loved ones,
Sister Barbara Lynn Schmitz, Prioress

Alumnae Special!

Become the person God created you to be.

Get your own copy of *A Transformed Life* by Sister Maria Tasto, class of '55, at a huge discount! The special 3-DVD set and guidebook usually sells for \$94.99, but we are offering all AIC/MHA alumnae the chance to buy the complete set for only \$45.



In six 45-minute conferences, Sister Maria guides you along the path of becoming who God created you to be. Using the lens of Scripture and inspired by the work of Father Thomas Keating, she shares what she has gleaned from years of walking with others on the spiritual journey and from her own remarkable path.

You can order online through our Monastery Gift Shop: www.monasterygiftshop.org. Use promo code ATLALUM2016 when ordering. We will also have copies available for purchase during the reunion, June 25-26.

May they rest in peace

Alumnae: Betty Jane (Blankenberger) Metz '40, Betty (Myers) Taft '40, Nova (Lyons) Goffinet '43, Anne C. Pirnat '43, Edna Mae (Schultheis) Clark '44, Neoma B. (Kluesner) Sander '49, Irma Linda (Baehl) Peterson '54, Joyce Ann (Eckert) Vitale '54, Mary (Koressel) May '55, Alice M. (Sander) Lueken '57, Virginia “Ginny” (Beardsley) Short '64, Patricia Kieffer '66, Leigh Ann Mehling '88

Husband of: Eleanor (Frielinghausen) Buchanan '49

Father of: Teresa Lowe '78, Sr. Anita Louise Lowe '83

Mother of: Joan (Emmert) Conyers '64, Jeanette (Schroering) Jahn '64, Patricia Kissel '64, Patty (Emmert) Jenkins '69, Mary Ann (Kern) Denning '70, Ruth Marie (Kern) Mattingly '71, Jenny Schmitt '71, Susan (Emmert) Barnes '72, Karen (Backherms) McMaster '78

Brother of: Imelda (Meny) Balbach '49, Sister Ida (Juanita) Otto '62

Son of: Rita (Steinkamp) Barwe '63



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2016 Alumnae Reunion Weekend

“Meet on the Hill” on June 25-26!

More details on page 4.

Experience one of our programs or retreats at Benedictine Hospitality Center at Kordes Hall on the hill. Find rest and healing, renewal and peace for your body, mind, and spirit.

Check the web site for program details: thedome.org/events

- | | |
|-------------|------------------------------------|
| April 2 | Unwrapping God’s Gift From the Sea |
| April 4-6 | Come Away Retreat |
| April 9 | Healing and Music |
| April 15-17 | Weekend Away Retreat |
| April 16 | Psalms: Prayers of the Heart |
| March 19 | Loss and Grief |



**Sisters of St. Benedict of Ferdinand
will be celebrating 150 years!**

**Save the date for our Summer Social
June 2-3, 2017**