

## **Sister Marcella Marie Narlock**

**1937- 2020**

Sister Marcella Marie Narlock was born March 19, 1937, in Chicago, Illinois, the second of two children of Henry Alexander and Mary Marcella (Gibbons) Narlock. She was baptized Marcella Arlene at St. Francis de Paula Church on April 4, 1937. She had one brother, William Narlock.

Marcella Arlene attended St. Francis de Paula Elementary School and Aquinas Dominican High School in Chicago, graduating in 1955.



She entered the Sisters of St. Francis at Mount St. Clare Convent, Clinton, Iowa on September 8, 1955 and received the name Marcella Marie at her reception on June 15, 1956. She made her first profession on August 12, 1958 and pronounced perpetual vows on August 12, 1961. Among her novitiate classmates were Sisters Ida Green, Virginia Krakow, Mary Mel McMillan, and Mary Smith.

Sister Marcella Marie earned BS and MS degrees in Speech Pathology at Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She held a Permanent Professional Certificate of Clinical Competence from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association; a license as a Speech/Language Pathologist in Iowa and Illinois and as an Early Intervention Specialist in Illinois; and an Iowa Permanent Professional Teaching Certificate.

Although Sister Marcella Marie's first ministry was teaching in primary grades at St. Boniface School in Clinton and St. Gerald School in Oak Lawn, Illinois, her life-long passion involved finding ways to enhance the lives of persons with disabilities. After completing her studies in speech pathology in 1969, Sister Marcella served as director and speech/language pathologist at the Mount St. Clare Speech and Hearing Center for the next 43 years. She devoted her life to the children and adults who came to the center for help related to speech, language development, and hearing. During much of this time, she also served on the faculty of Mount St. Clare College as Speech and Hearing Instructor and taught functional speech to mentally challenged persons at the Skyline Center in Clinton.

After the Mount St. Clare Speech and Hearing Center closed in 2012, Sister Marcella Marie continued to serve as a speech/language pathologist with Providence Therapy Services in Clinton, IA from 2012 - 2017. Besides her professional life as a speech pathologist, Sister Marcella Marie was a long-time volunteer for the Coalition for Disabled Persons and the Clinton Area Association for the Hearing Impaired. Her devotion to making communication accessible to persons with hearing impairments

motivated her to teach sign language as an alternative communication to anyone willing to learn.

She retired at The Canticle in 2017 and moved to The Alverno in July 2019. She died at Select Specialty Hospital in Davenport, IA on March 9, 2020.

Sister Marcella Marie is survived by the Sisters of St. Francis, with whom she shared life for 64 years, her brother William and sister-in-law Donna Narlock, nephew Tom (Rebecca), and Debbie Narlock, widow of her nephew, Tod, as well as several cousins.

Sister was preceded in death by her parents and her nephew Tod.