



# **Sr. Patricia Connor**

NOV 6, 1929 - NOV 6, 2017



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*WEIGEL Funeral Home*

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## **Sr. Patricia Connor**

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**S**r. Patricia Connor, formerly Sr. Cajetan, age 88 of the Srs. of St. Francis in Oldenburg, died Monday, November 6, 2017 at the convent. Born September 6, 1929 in Hays, Kansas, she is the daughter of Matilda (Nee: Thiel) and Charles Connor. The oldest of seven, she grew up on the family farm. After high school she attended the Texas State College for Women and Marymount College before earning degrees from Marian University and Rosary College.

As a freshman in college, she decided to become a missionary sister but was declined because of incidents of rheumatic fever as a child. After applying to two other religious communities in Texas and California, she was again declined by both. Seeing a small ad in a directory for the Srs. of St. Francis, she applied, interested in the convent's ministry in China. The convent responded to her letting her know they were discontinuing their China ministry, but welcomed her to explore the other opportunities available.

Sr. Patricia's father wasn't Catholic and was not in favor of her career choice, but that did not deter her. Soon her mother would drop her off at the train station bound for Batesville. In September of 1949 she began her life as a Franciscan Sister. She taught in Ohio and Indiana from 1951 to 1965 before serving nine years as Principal in New Alsace, Indiana. In 1974 she accepted the position of Assistant Librarian at Marian University in Indianapolis, retiring in 2009 after 35 years.

Sr. Patricia is survived by sisters Gladys Connor of Salina, Kansas, Lorrie Blackwill of Quinter, Kansas, Kay Religa of Brooksville, Kansas, Karen Vail of Salina, Kansas; brothers James of Catoosa, Oklahoma, Larry of WaKeeney, Kansas; 20 nieces and nephews, 47 great nieces and nephews and 26 great-great nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her parents.



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Visitation is Monday, November 13th, from 1 – 3 p.m. at the convent. Funeral services follow at 3 p.m. with Rev. Robert Weakley O.F.M. officiating. Burial will follow in the convent cemetery. Memorials may be made to the Srs. of St. Francis, P.O. Box 100 Oldenburg, IN, 47036 ([www.OldenburgFranciscans.org](http://www.OldenburgFranciscans.org)).



## Tribute Wall

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KM

**Katha Hurt, Karla And Richard Ziegler Of Manhattan, Kansas, And Kansas City, Missouri** posted:

We are saddened by Sister Patricia's death and are sorry that we could not participate in the visitation and funeral. All the brothers and sisters are in our thoughts and prayers. We are sending a contribution to the Sisters of St. Francis.

November 16 at 8:00 PM

DI

**Daniel J. Elsener, President Of Marian University, Indianapolis** posted:

On behalf of the entire Marian University community, I extend our heartfelt condolences to all those who loved and were positively impacted by Sister Pat throughout her long, full life. We were deeply saddened to hear of her passing and know that this must be a tremendously difficult time for Sister Pat's family, friends, and fellow Sisters. She was a highly valued and passionate member of the Marian University community, serving as a librarian here on campus for 39 years, as well as an emphatic proponent of mission work and exceptional education for all. Sister Pat's dedication to the Franciscan values, compassion for all peoples, and abiding faith are truly wonderful qualities that call us all to strive for that kind of strength. While my words cannot bring sufficient comfort at this heart-rending time, I hope Sister Pat's family, friends, and fellow Sisters know that the entire Marian community joins together in petition for the repose of Sister Pat's soul and her everlasting happiness. Her legacy will live on throughout the Marian community and Sisters of St. Francis of Oldenburg. May God bless us all with happy memories of Sister Pat today and always.

November 15 at 8:00 PM

JB

**Jodell Koelling Of Batesville** posted:

I am the daughter of Nixie Reason Koelling and granddaughter of Steve and Mildred Reason. Sister Patricia was such a great role model and encourager to her many students. I remember your family when I visit WaKeeney with my relatives. My deepest condolences. Thank you for sharing Sister Patricia with Indiana. She has been such a rich gift.

November 9 at 8:00 PM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Sr. by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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