

Province Center
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February 10, 1994

"There is one thing I ask -
 to savor the sweetness of the Lord."
 (Psalm 27 - Evening Prayer)

Dear Sisters,

It was close to 7:00 P.M. when we received the news from St. Joseph Hospital that Sister Presentia had died. What a moment of joy for Sister Presentia as she savored the sweetness of the Lord! What a moment of sadness for our sisters who were gathered in chapel waiting to begin the prayer service for our departed Sister Thoma to hear of the ninth death this year! There is much mourning at our Motherhouse.

It was about four weeks ago that there was a noticeable change in Sister Presentia's behavior. She seemed confused and unresponsive. She was taken to the hospital where she stayed for about two weeks. She returned to Holy Family Center but on February 9 her condition worsened. She had to be taken to the hospital again, apparently having suffered a massive stroke.



Sister M. Presentia - Regis Coudriet
 Born: June 19, 1914 in St. Mary's, PA
 First Profession: August 26, 1940
 Died: February 10, 1994 in Reading, PA

After her novitiate, Sister Presentia began nurses' training at Sacred Heart Hospital, Allentown. She then worked for 45 years in a variety of hospital ministries. She was a nurse, an x-ray technician, a respiratory therapist, and an audio-visual librarian. For one year she worked as a parish visitor. Her ministry assignments were at Sacred Heart Hospital, Allentown; Sacred Heart Hospital, Norristown; Good Samaritan Hospital, Pottsville; St. Mary's Hospital, Athens; Mt. Trexler, Limeport; St. Margaret Mary Parish, Parkersburg.

Sister Presentia had the gift of making everyone she met or lived with feel at home. She knew how to bring joy to others, to feel with them, to point out the bright side of a situation. Her humor

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was contagious. "Where there was sadness, she brought joy." She would reach out to those who were suffering or depressed and saw needs around her. One of her hobbies was raising plants. She was so good at doing this that she always had more than she could use. This gave her an opportunity to give them away and so make others happy.

We thank Sister Presentia for her 54 years of vowed life. Her gift of reaching out to others was one she shared with many of us and with many of those she met in her ministries. This was a gift she received from the Giver of gifts - the One with whom she spent time conversing daily. May we receive a touch of her positive presence.

The Mass of Resurrection will be celebrated for Sister on Monday, February 14, 1994, at 3:30 P.M. After that, she will be laid to rest in our convent cemetery.

United in the Heart of Jesus,

Sister Teresita, MSC