



*When all leaves us . . .*

**GOD ALWAYS  
and EVERYWHERE**

**with us,  
Emmanuel!**



School Sisters of Notre Dame  
of St. Louis

320 East Ripa Avenue  
Saint Louis, MO 63125

[www.ssnd-sl.org](http://www.ssnd-sl.org)



*Sister Teresa Margaret Weaver, SSND*

*Born*

*March 28, 1922*

*Professed*

*July 30, 1943*

*Ministry*

*elementary/secondary/college educator ~  
Kyoto, Japan; Missouri*

*Died*

*January 26, 2009*

# *Sister Teresa Margaret Weaver, SSND*



The fourth of nine children was born to Wilhelmina [Newmann] and Alfred Weaver on March 28, 1922, in St. Louis, Mo. On April 9, she was baptized in St. Michael's Church and given the name Luella Mae. She had six sisters and two brothers.



Luella attended St. Michael's School, staffed by the Sisters of Loretto, until sixth grade. A transfer to St. Liborius School brought her into contact with the School Sisters of Notre Dame. During her first year at St. Alphonsus Liguori [Rock] High School, she was inspired by the example of Candidate Teresa [later Sister Joecile] Ksycki and desired to imitate her. Following graduation, she entered at Ripa on August 28, 1940. She was received into the novitiate on July 29, 1942, and given the name Teresa Margaret. Profession of first vows was on July 30, 1943, and final vows on July 30, 1949.



She taught grades 2 and 3 at St. Gabriel the Archangel School for two years while daily commuting to and from the motherhouse. She was then given the opportunity to study full-time for two years at Our Lady of the Lake College in San Antonio, Texas. After receiving her degree in home economics, she taught at Rosati-Kain High School, St. Louis, for four years.

In October 1951, Sister Teresa Margaret began her ministry in the Region of Japan. Notre Dame Junior High School was to open the following April. This meant that uniforms had to be designed, equipment purchased, curtains made, while studying the Japanese language and preparing to teach classes in Japanese.

When Notre Dame Women's College opened in 1961, she taught part-time in both institutions.

In 1962, she became chairperson of the culture living department at the college. With the help of Japanese sisters and lay persons, she developed this department and retained the position of chairperson until mandatory retirement at age 70. She then opened "Friendship House," a place within the college where students and faculty could find light refreshment and socialize. She served as head dietitian and dessert-maker.

In 1993, during a noon get-together with a teacher, she suffered a stroke. Realizing that her 42 years of ministry in Japan was over, she requested to return to the United States to receive therapy and retire at Villa Gesu. Subsequent strokes resulted in her inability to speak.

When the Villa closed in 1999, she was missioned to Veronica House. In July 2002, she was transferred to Anna House. Her diabetic condition resulted in several amputations in 2008 and in January 2009. She entered eternal life on January 26, 2009, at 12:55 p.m. at Anna House with several sisters and members of the nursing staff praying with her.

A wake/vigil was held at Anna House and the motherhouse on January 29. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated the following morning with interment in the motherhouse cemetery. Because of the recent snow, the graveside prayers were said at the Pieta Shrine. She is survived by a sister, Irene Puzniak of Florissant, Mo., and nieces/nephews and their children. Many relatives, friends and SSNDs attended the services.

Sister Teresa Margaret was a gentle, gracious woman of prayer whose multi-cultural experiences brought her into solidarity with all peoples. She was a professional in all she did and greatly respected and loved by her Japanese colleagues and students. She patiently endured her limitations and sufferings and was never without her beautiful smile. May she delight in the fullness of life she now enjoys with her God!

*Precious and blessed is the death of the faithful before God.*