



Sister Joan Ann Springman

February 24, 1934 - April 18, 2021

Sister Joan Ann Springman, OSU, died peacefully at 11:45 a.m. on Sunday, April 18, 2021. She was born on Feb. 24, 1934, at her home in Alton, Illinois; the youngest of eight children of Joseph J. and Elizabeth (Valerius) Springman. She had five brothers, Jerome V., Eugene E., Gerald J., Edmund J. and Joseph J.; and two sisters, Mary L. Girard and Delores T. Mills, all, of whom preceded her in death.

At the age of 19, she entered the Ursulines on July 15, 1953, and professed her vows on Jan. 16, 1956, when she became known as Mother Mary Immaculata. She knew she wanted to be "a religious" from the time she was in the second grade.

She earned a bachelor's degree in voice from Webster College in St Louis, Missouri, and a master's degree in liturgical music, with concentration in pipe organ, from DePaul University in Chicago, Illinois.

She taught kindergarten and elementary grades--and music to students of all ages--throughout the Central Province, serving in Alton, Collinsville, and Oak Park, Illinois; Kirkwood, Missouri; New Orleans, Louisiana.; and Frontenac, Minnesota. She also was an organist, choir director, and music and liturgy coordinator. She taught music at Marquette High School and Consolidated Catholic School in Alton from 1973-75. She was music and liturgy coordinator

at SS. Peter and Paul in Alton from 1991-93 and at SS. Peter and Paul in Collinsville from 1993-2001. She most recently lived at St. Agnes Home in Kirkwood, Missouri.

Throughout her life, Sister Joan Ann was well known for her superior organ skills and beautiful voice. One of her favorite songs to sing, the "Ave Maria," would bring one to tears.

Sister Joan Ann was known and loved by every one of her nieces and nephews. Becoming the last surviving sibling in the fall of 2004, she became, in many ways, "the glue" that kept the family connected through her handwritten letters, emails, religious holiday cards and birthday cards.

Visitation will be Sunday, April 25, 2021 from 4:00-7:00 p.m. at Gent Funeral Home in Alton. A Mass of Christian Burial will be conducted at 10:00 a.m. Monday, April 26, 2021 at SS Peter and Paul Catholic Church with Father Jeff Holtman O.F.S. as celebrant. Burial will follow at St Patrick's Cemetery. Memorial gifts for ministry to the poor may be made to the Ursuline Sisters, 353 S. Sappington Road, St. Louis, MO 63122. Online guestbook and information may be found at www.gentfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

St. Patrick's Cemetery

Godfrey, IL 62035

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **25**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Gent Funeral Home & Cremation Services
2409 State Street
Alton, IL 62002
(618) 466-5544
<https://www.gentfuneralhome.com/>

Funeral Mass

APR **26**. 10:00 AM (CT)

SS Peter & Paul Catholic Church
717 State Street
Alton, IL 62002

Tribute Wall



“ *Sister Joan Ann Springman*

January 28, 2023 at 10:19 AM



“ *Sister Joan Ann Springman*

January 28, 2023 at 08:19 AM



“ *Sr Joanie was known and loved by our entire family and a very dear friend to our mother. She used to sneak up onto Moms porch and leave her flowers until just a few years ago, along with sweet notes, and was so good about keeping in touch even when Mom wasn't able to get out anymore. My brother Joe remembers Sr Immaculata teaching him music in first grade at SSPP - the 'Old Cathedral' school in Alton. My sis Anne said Sr introduced Mom to Fr Rookie who has done miracles for us.*

St Joanie was a loving “force of nature” with an abundance of creativity, kindness and enthusiasm for life. She will be missed.

Mary (Schwarte) Ehley - April 27, 2021 at 02:48 PM

MS

“ *Sister Joan Ann was a devout and beautiful daughter of the church and a daughter of Saint Ursula. I was always impressed by her great respect for The unborn. Whenever there was a pro-life rally you would always know that sister would be there. As she returns to her Creator may she be greeted by all those aborted children that she stood up for in her earthly life. What a wonderful heavenly reunion that will be.*



As a wonderful choir director and organist she will be greeted by the holy choirs of angels along with the aborted children, Blessed Mother and her son Jesus Christ.

Eternal rest grant to her oh Lord.

Let perpetual light shine upon her.

May she rest in peace.

May her soul and all the souls of the faithfully departed rest in peace. Amen

Monsignor Steffen

Monsignor Kenneth Steffen - April 25, 2021 at 11:49 PM

GO

“ *I was surprised to hear of the dynamic, talented Sr Joan Ann's passing; she had so much vitality I thought she would always share our world. Her energies are now in use in another world. I will never forget her stirring, spontaneous organ performance of "Phantom of the Opera" after a mass with choir held in her honor several years ago. She later sent us choir members handwritten notes, thanking us for our participation. Thank YOU, Sister Joan Ann!*

Gwen O'Brien - April 25, 2021 at 02:23 PM

SS

“ One of the many happy memories Sister Joan Ann and I shared was visiting the Botanical Gardens together at different seasons of the year. She loved Nature. Sister was generous to a fault, and had countless friends from all walks of life. I remember observing her slipping alms to a needy person more than once. Joan Ann was a very dedicated and zealous promoter of the Pro Life Apostolate. Only God knows how many hours she spent, in all kinds of weather, praying near abortion clinics. As a friend remarked to me, "I can see her in heaven holding all the babies that she worked so hard to save." Sister Joan Ann inspired me with her deep spirit of prayer, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and spirit of forgiveness and love. I know she is not forgetting us, but is busy helping us on our way Home. Theresa Sarich, osu

Sister Theresa Sarichosu - April 23, 2021 at 06:59 PM



“ Sr. Joan Ann was a good friend. I enjoyed seeing her especially at the family reunions at Sportsmen's Club.

Carol Teaney - April 23, 2021 at 12:08 PM

JT

“ My sister and I had a lovely visit with our great aunt some months ago. I think it may have been her first time using Zoom! She will be missed.

Joe Teichert - April 22, 2021 at 09:58 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



Gent Funeral Home & Cremation Services - April 22, 2021 at 11:54 AM

TD

“ *Sr. Joan Ann was one of the most beautiful people we have ever known! We loved her and we will miss her. Rest In Peace and Glory!* 🙏

Tony & Dottie Dipiazza - April 21, 2021 at 07:12 PM