



Marie Patrice Hoare SL
May 29, 1929 — July 15, 2011.

Theresa Hoare attended St. Dominic Elementary School in Denver. She then graduated from Holy Family High School and worked in a factory in Denver. In a letter dated September 22, 1945, she wrote to Mother Edwarda Ashe: "If accepted, I would like to enter in February. Until then I have planned to attend a class or two a week at the Regis College downtown extension center. For the past year I have been working in a factory and I think it might be a good idea to try to get into the swing of thinking again."

Theresa did enter in February and received the religious habit and her new name of Marie Patrice on August 15, 1946. She made first vows on August 15, 1948 and final vows on August 15, 1951. Anne, (Sister Gabriel Mary), followed Marie Patrice to Loretto in 1951.

Marie Patrice received her BA degree with a Major in Elementary Education and Minor in Philosophy from Webster College in 1955. This was followed by an MA in Education from Notre Dame University in 1962.

Marie Patrice began teaching in 1948 and continued through 1995 at schools in St. Louis; Kansas City; Daphne, Alabama; Pasadena, California; Houston and Freeport Texas, her favorite mission with a perfect job and community, before moving to Loretto Academy in El Paso in 1969 where she taught in both the elementary and middle schools. In 1995 she became sacristan for Loretto Academy; her last formal sacristan responsibility was the Loretto Academy First Communion celebration on April 30.

Johanna Brian shared her memories of Marie Patrice. Johanna says, "Marie Patrice struck me as a person who had a strong sense of justice and no fear or hesitancy when it came to speaking her mind. When she folded her arms and took a deep breath, you knew you were going to hear the truth, as she saw it. She had a short fuse and little tolerance for behavior she considered selfish or stupid. (I was with her one time when she yelled at a policeman for blocking traffic and I heard her 'setting the record straight' at the top of her lungs on the phone several times.)"

"On the other hand, she was kind, considerate, generous and tender with people who were in pain. She was a dedicated, hardworking, creative woman who had an excellent sense of humor and enjoyed life to the fullest. She was hospitable and delighted to serve up her delicious 'concoctions.' She loved animals and cherished Smudge, her three-legged cat. She was greatly loved and will be sorely missed!"

Liz Deines wrote, "Marie Patrice was one of the most honest people I have ever had the honor of knowing and loving. She knew her mind and had solid convictions of right and wrong. She was a great advocate of education and always looked out for the welfare of the Academy, the keeping of the sacristy, and the lessons one could learn from simple everyday living.

"She was a valued member of our El Paso community and a vital part of our Conversation Circle and Community Group. Her dry sense of humor and sharp wit were welcomed relief at numerous gatherings and supper table discussion. She had a strong devotion to and love for Jesus in the Eucharist and as numerous conversations indicated, that dedication to Eucharist (and ramifications of service to others) really was the center, the focal point, of her religious life. One could always expect a rousing interchange of ideas from Marie Patrice if the topic was church or politics!

"Though her strong side often came through, it was her gentle side that held one's imagination. Marie Patrice cared deeply for the underdog, be they animal or human, as evidenced by the multitude of mail she received soliciting for one cause or another. White Cat and all his misadventures held a spot in Marie Patrice's heart. It is with a mix of sadness and appreciation that I am writing these few lines. El Paso will miss her deeply, but we are so grateful to have had her friendship and the wisdom of the heart (and sharp mind) that she freely shared with each one of us."

The following quote is from a 1987 Loretto Academy graduate, "I was in the 6th grade. The Middle School looked enormous to me coming from Loretto Elementary, and science had definitely never been my thing. Sister Marie Patrice, with her mischievous smile and energy made me want to be in that science lab. I thought that dissecting a frog was the most interesting and most disgusting thing I would ever do, but I really loved it. Her patience with us was incredible."

Because of her failing health, Marie Patrice moved to Loretto Motherhouse on Tuesday, July 12 and died very unexpectedly on Friday morning, July 15.

Thank you, Marie Patrice, for the many gifts you shared with us. We will all miss you: your family and your Loretto family, especially those of us in El Paso.