

Remembering



Anne Furrow, CSJA

August 24, 1937 ~April 1, 2017

Anne spent her early childhood years in Iowa; the family moved to Tucson in 1952. After graduating from Amphi High School in 1955, Anne began her nursing career at St. Mary's School of Nursing. This is probably where Anne first encountered the Sisters of St. Joseph. She heard and answered the vocation call to religious life when she graduated from nursing school in 1958.

Anne received the habit of the Sisters of St. Joseph and recited her first vows in 1959; in October of 1960 Anne left the community but she maintained contact with the Sisters throughout her life. She still felt called to a life of service, only this time it was military service. She served four years in the Air Force and 30 years in the Reserves.

During this time Anne also completed her Bachelor of Science in the College of Nursing. On a sunny day in 1966 Dianne Nelson met Anne in

the Student Union; they were both studying Anatomy and needed a break so they started talking about things other than anatomy, namely religious life since Dianne was about to enter the CSJs. It was the year Anne's reception was making their final vows and the two decided to drive to the House of Studies in Los Angeles for the celebration. They stayed in the home of Sister Suzanne Jabro's mother and had a wonderful time.

Anne became the first licensed Pediatric Nurse Practitioner in Arizona; she worked for the Pima County Health Department for 30 years. Many of her pediatric patients called her "Dr. Anne"; throughout her career she touched thousands of children's lives with her kindness and generosity. Anne also served on the Board of Directors for Reachout Women's Center, an organization serving low income pregnant women in Tucson.

Anne had a passion for her nursing

profession. She funded the chair position at the University of Arizona, College of Nursing for the Anne Furrow Integrative Nursing Faculty Fellowship, which is a first-of-its-kind program designed to prepare faculty and nursing students to transform nursing education and practice by blending conventional and complementary care.

Anne also never lost her passion for the Sisters of St. Joseph. In 1998 she became a CSJ Associate. As an Associate, Anne participated in the mission of the Sisters of St. Joseph by sharing her talents and creativity and living the Gospel values of active, inclusive love of God and neighbor without distinction.

Anne was an integral part of many communities—family, nursing, CSJ, and friends. I believe this reflection on "community" by a Sister of St. Joseph of Pennsylvania describes Anne's relationships:

"If I were to paint a portrait of community, of who we are: It would be with broad strokes of courage, using the colors of tenacity, fidelity, determination and compassion.

There would be fine lines of unity and blendings of new beginnings across seas of blue commitment, and red frontiers of struggle.

It would be done on a large canvas stretched across the wood of growth and framed with intertwined threads of an unending lace, where each of our faces would be seen in the spaces created by the joinings of the knots.

It would be an unfinished masterpiece, waiting for those yet to come among us."

Anne, may you continue to inspire us to enter into each day with a generous heart and to serve the call of courage and love. ✨

Written by Dianne Nelson, CSJA

