



IN MEMORIAM
Helen Lawson
May 11, 1937 – April 7, 2025

Helen was born in her parents' tiny home in Stanton, North Dakota, during the depression. She was the third of five children and often helped caring for her younger siblings as both parents worked. At the age of five, her family moved to Minot, North Dakota. There she attended a Catholic grade school and graduated from Minot High School.

During high school Helen worked at St. Joseph Hospital. The hospital was run by Franciscan Sisters and there Helen began her journey as a follower of St. Francis. After graduation, she moved to Washington and worked for the telephone company. Helen met her future husband, David, they were married and had four children.

Helen later moved to Joliet, and she served as receptionist for our congregation for over twenty-five years. Helen made her commitment to our Associate Relationship on April 6, 2003, and has been a professed member of St. Anthony of Padua Fraternity since May 2016. On the recommendation form for Helen becoming an associate it was written, "Helen has been an inspiration to me through her unselfish living out her Christian calling. Helen puts her faith in action so many ways."

In Helen's letter requesting to be accepted as an associate she wrote, "I have been blessed just working here with the sisters. I know their prayers have helped me in my works. In sickness, I have experienced their most gracious hospitality. In return for the love and prayers, I wish to unite myself with the community of sisters to bring Christ's presence to our troubled world. Christ calls –my response, I will go Lord, if you lead me."

We are grateful for the years Helen spent as an Associate and friend to our Congregation. She now enjoys the presence of God whom she loved and served.