



Mary Margaret (Zaenglein) Senger-Dickinson

September 2, 1933 - July 30, 2022

Mary Margaret (Zaenglein) Senger-Dickinson was born September 2, 1933 in Rochester, NY, where she spent her childhood. She was the daughter of Mary (Larkin) and H. Conrad Zaenglein. Mary Margaret attended Marygrove College Detroit where she received her B.A. magna cum laude. She received her M.A. from Fordham University and her Ph.D. from the University of Notre Dame. She spent twelve years as a nun in the Sister Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in Monroe, MI and during that time taught high school and at Marygrove College. Upon graduation from Notre Dame she became an assistant professor at Michigan State University and taught there for the next twenty years. She became full professor in the department of social science and early on was named teacher-scholar of the year. In 1982 she became director of behavioral medicine in the department of family practice at the MSU College of Human Medicine. Mary Margaret was also a fully licensed psychologist and had a part-time private practice in counseling. She spent thirty three years of her life in education, and she loved teaching. In retirement, Mary Margaret was active in both of her communities, volunteering for multiple organizations in Anna Maria Island, FL and Charlevoix, MI.

Mary Margaret had the good fortune to marry two extraordinary men: in 1973 she married Frank B. Senger who passed away in 1979, and in 1985 she married Joseph E. Dickinson who passed away in 2020. She enjoyed great happiness in both of these marriages and “inherited” seven loving step-

children. Mary Margaret is survived by four of her step-children: Michael Senger (Nancy Walker), Rosemary Senger (LJ Schenck), Mary Senger (Paul Brendtro), and Judy Boughton (Christopher), and two of their spouses: Vince Squillace and Deborah Pahssen. She leaves behind 18 accomplished grandchildren and 28 great grandchildren with one on the way. She is also survived by her brother Conrad Zaenglein, her brother-in-law Jim Langbein, and a group of loving friends, whom she always counted as family. She was preceded in death by her sister Anne Langbein, and her step-children Frank B. Senger III, Jeff Dickinson, and Cathy Squillace.

She will be remembered for her feisty personality, wit, and undying loyalty to the Fighting Irish of Notre Dame.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Memorial contributions can be directed to the Humane Society of Sarasota County (hssc.org).

Tribute Wall

BZ

“ *Became my boss at MSU Family Practice and quickly became a very, very good friend and confidant. Loved being with her and Joe. They were both such delightful people.*

Bonnie Zell - May 14, 2024 at 03:03 AM

CR

“ *I read her obituary and I realize Mary Margaret must have known and worked with my aunt, Isabel Fowkes (sister Elizabeth), who also was an IHM nun out of Monroe Michigan
God bless them both for the role models they are to us women of today*

carol Richardson - August 05, 2022 at 10:58 AM

SA

Dr. Senger was my professor at MSU. She was an outstanding educator and supported me in my application to medical school as well as throughout my medical residency program. I have thought of her countless times over the past thirty years and am saddened that she has left us. The world was a better place with her in it.

Samantha - February 08, 2023 at 11:47 AM