

Atchison, KS

Sister Sharon Holthaus, OSB, 92, a Benedictine sister of Mount St. Scholastica, Atchison, Kans., died Saturday, August 23, 2014, at the monastery. The vigil service will be Monday, August 25, at 7:00 p.m. in the monastery chapel, and the Mass of Resurrection will be celebrated there Tuesday, August 26, at 10:30 a.m.

Sister Sharon Holthaus was the third of six children born to Rose and Francis Holthaus in Seneca, Kansas. She attended Baileyville Grade and High School. She worked one year as a secretary before entering the Mount Benedictines in 1941. She made her perpetual profession in 1945. After teaching primary grades for eight years in Kansas, Missouri, and Iowa, she was missioned to Colegio Guadalupe in Mexico where she taught for 17 years. She chaperoned a group of high school students from Mexico to New York for the World's Fair in 1964. From 1972-77, she did pastoral ministry in the Nemaha-Marshall area with a team of five sisters. She taught religion at LeBlond High School and was a pastoral minister for the aged in St. Joseph, Mo., and Seneca, Ks., for several years. She served on the community senate and was always interested in community activities. After returning to the Mount in 1989, she served as director of the laundry and did miscellaneous services. Sister Sharon enjoyed working with crafts and flowers.

Sister Sharon was preceded in death by her parents Francis and Rose (Olberding) Holthaus. She is survived by her brothers, George, Edwin, and Leo Holthaus; her sisters, Rita Strathman and Vivina Strathman; many nieces and nephews; and her monastic family. Becker-Dyer-Stanton Funeral Home (beckerdyer.com) is in charge of arrangements. Memorials may be sent to Mount St. Scholastica or made online at the Mount's web site (www.mountosb.org).