



**Sr. Thomas Patrick Dooley**

*February 23, 1927 – January 4, 2010*

Sr. Thomas Patrick Dooley (82) died on Monday, January 4, 2010, in David City, Nebraska, in her 58<sup>th</sup> year of religious profession.

Born to Thomas and Rose (Dillon) Dooley in Greeley, Nebraska, Eulalia was one of five children. Prior to entering religious life, she worked as the secretary for the credit manager at JL Brandeis Department Store in Omaha, NE, and with the Internal Revenue Service in Idaho. She entered the Dominican Novitiate of the former St. Catharine, Kentucky, congregation in 1950, taking the name Thomas Patrick, and made her Profession of Vows in 1952.

Sr. Thomas Patrick earned a BA from Ursuline College (Louisville, KY) in biology with minors in secondary education, theology, and philosophy. She also earned an MS in biology and ecology from St. Mary's College (Winona, MN). Her ministry in education allowed her to incorporate her love for the sciences, especially biology, and brought her to serve in varied locations: St. Patrick, Missouri Valley, IA (1952-55); Our Lady of Peace, Chicago, IL (1955-60); St. Bartholomew, Chicago, IL (1960-61); St. Francis, Forrest City, AR (1961); St. Patrick, Missouri Valley, IA (1961-62); Rosary Academy, Watertown, MA (1963-64); SS. Simon and Jude, Louisville, KY (1964-65); Kearney Catholic, Kearney, NE (1965-68, 71-77); Sacred Heart High, Greeley, NE (1968-70); Spalding Academy, Spalding, NE (1977-80); and Aquinas High School, David City, NE, where she began as a full-time teacher in 1983 and stayed on as a substitute until her death. Sr. Thomas Patrick also ministered as the Assistant Treasurer for the Dominicans of St. Catharine, KY (1980-83).

Sr. Thomas Patrick, or "TP" as she was fondly known, was intelligent, alert, and in relatively good health most of her life. She was known to be sensitive to her environment and to the needs of others. Many recalled how she spotted a fire in the sanctuary during the Sunday Benediction and raced down the aisle with a fire extinguisher to smother the flames! She enjoyed caring for her two dogs, Molly, who recently died, and Muffy, who is still living. Sr. TP also took great pride in her Irish, Nebraskan, and Dominican heritages and enjoyed keeping up with current community, national, and world events. In a personal reflection, Sr. TP wrote that, while the congregation's union was not her option, she worked to accept the reality and move along with the process. She attended all meetings in preparation for the founding of Dominican Sisters of Peace.

Sr. Thomas Patrick's wake and funeral took place at St. Mary's Church in David City, NE. A Memorial Mass will be held at the Kentucky Motherhouse at a later date in honor of Sr. TP; details are pending.

Memorial gifts in Sr. Thomas Patrick's memory may be sent to Dominican Sisters of Peace at 2320 Airport Dr., Columbus, OH 43219-2098.