



**School Sisters
of Notre Dame**
Atlantic-Midwest Province

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:
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**Sister Mary Evangelus O'Brien, SSND,
teacher for more than half-century, dies at 98**

Sister Mary Evangelus O'Brien, who taught students in elementary through high school for more than 50 years, eventually specializing in business education, died of heart failure on Oct. 31 at Lourdes Health Care Center in Wilton, Conn. She was 98 years old and had been a professed member of the School Sisters of Notre Dame for 76 years.

Catherine Stokes O'Brien was born in Brighton, Mass., on Aug. 9, 1913, to Thomas and Catherine (Hagan) O'Brien, Irish immigrants. She attended Our Lady of Perpetual Help Grammar School and graduated from Mission Church High School, both run by the School Sisters of Notre Dame in Roxbury, Mass.



She entered the School Sisters of Notre Dame in Baltimore in September 1932, was given the religious name Mary Evangelus, and made her first vows in August 1935.

Sister Evangelus' first teaching assignment was at Blessed Sacrament School in Baltimore (1935-39). She later taught at St. John in Frederick, Md. (1939-42); St. Joseph in Midland, Md. (1942-44); and St. Mary's in the Govans area of Baltimore (1944-49).

In 1948, she left Maryland to teach at Holy Name of Jesus in Providence, R.I. (1949-54); St. Joseph, 87th Street in New York City (1954-58); and St. John Nepomucene Elementary and Commercial School in Bridgeport, Conn. (1957-58). In the late 1950s, Sister Evangelus began to use her expertise in business education to teach commercial courses in high schools in the Northeast. She taught at Our Lady of Perpetual Help High in New York City (1958-62) and St. Thomas Aquinas High in Dover, N.H. (1962-63) before landing at her alma mater, Mission High in Roxbury, Mass., where she stayed for 25 years.

In 1989, at age 76, Sister Evangelus left teaching for semiretirement as a volunteer at New England Baptist Hospital in Boston and at her other alma mater, Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Roxbury. She moved to Villa Notre Dame, home to retired School Sisters in Wilton, in 2003 and to Lourdes Health Care Center in 2009.

Sister Evangelus earned her teaching certification from the college of Notre Dame of Maryland in 1944. She later earned a bachelor's degree in business education from the Catholic Teachers College in Providence, R.I., in 1954, and was awarded a master's in education from Boston University in 1963.

Sister Evangelus is survived by her nephew, the Rev. Mark Noonan of Chatham, Mass., who celebrated the Mass of Christian burial for Sister Evangelus on Nov. 4 at the chapel at Villa Notre Dame in Wilton.

Memorial contributions may be made to the School Sisters of Notre Dame, Atlantic-Midwest Province, Mission Advancement Office, 345 Belden Hill Road, Wilton, CT., 06897. (800) 993-7763.

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