Sister Loretta Marie Marbach

Sister Loretta Marie Marbach, a member of the Sisters of the Holy Family for 59 years, died Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at the age of 79 at the Sisters’ Motherhouse in Fremont. Sister Loretta Marie was born Lucile Marie Marbach on January 7, 1940, in Waitsburg, Washington. She entered the Sisters of the Holy Family from St. Patrick’s Parish in Walla Walla on January 6, 1960.

Sister Loretta Marie’s earlier ministry experiences as religious education teacher and coordinator took her to parishes in California, Hawaii, Nevada, Texas and Utah. In the mid-1980s, she began taking courses toward a Special Education degree, and in 1990 earned a credential in Special Education for mild, moderate and severely handicapped children. From 1993 to 2007 she was special educator in west Wendover Elementary School, West Wendover, NV.

After returning to the Motherhouse in Mission San Jose in 2007 for a sabbatical, Sister Loretta Marie began volunteer service in the Sisters of the Holy Family Archives, while serving on the Board of Directors of St. Elizabeth’s Day Home in San Jose. In addition to her volunteer service, she enjoyed doing wildly-shaped jigsaw puzzles and playing rummikub with the Sisters.

A Mass of Resurrection was celebrated on Monday, April 15, at the Motherhouse Oratory in Fremont. Burial will take place at Holy Cross Cemetery in Colma at a later date.