

We Want Your Marycrest Memorabilia!!!

The alumni board is interested in assembling a complete set of Marycrest yearbooks to have for reference and to be able to share with fellow alumni.

At the time of the college's closing, we were gifted multiple copies from various years -- including several from the same years. Eventually, we may consider auctioning off the duplicates, but we are interested in filling in the missing years.

So if you're cleaning out a closet, we'd love to be the library for them.

If you have a book -- or other memorabilia you'd like to donate -- please contact the board at board@marycrestalumni.com or Jennifer DeWitt at (309) 764-0660. You may also just bring them along to Homecoming.



Gary Monnard receives the 2004 Marycrest Spirit Award.



P.O. Box 793
Le Claire, Iowa 52753



Come back to The Crest with us

The Marycrest Alumni Association already is making plans for Homecoming 2005 at the Crest.

As always, Homecoming will be the first weekend in October, with events planned from Friday, Sept. 30 through Sunday, Oct. 2. Though we'll re-visit the Crest on Saturday, Oct. 1, we want to kick off the weekend Friday night with a new event with the Sisters of Humility. This year we honor the graduating classes that end in '00 & '05.

Here's a look at the weekend's events:

Friday, Sept. 30

New this year, is a Welcome Home reception at the Sisters of Humility Center at 820 W. Central Park Ave., Davenport (down the street from Assumption High School). From 7-9 p.m., we'll have coffee and cookies and spend time visiting with the Sisters. Marycrest friends are welcome to drop in at any time during the open house.

Saturday, Oct. 1

Our main Homecoming event -- an open house on the Marycrest Senior Housing campus will be Saturday from 1:30 to 4 p.m. in the Petersen Mansion. All friends of Marycrest are invited for an afternoon of strolling down memory lane. We hope you'll join us for refreshments, tours of the senior housing facilities and plenty of good conversation. Board member Genevieve "Gabby" Rafferty, C' 42, is chairing the event.

Sunday, Oct. 2

We close the weekend with Mass at St. Anthony's Catholic Church, 324 N. Main St., in downtown Davenport. Mass begins at 8:30 a.m. It will be followed by a buffet brunch at 10:30 am, Dutch-treat, at The Outing Club at 2109 N. Brady St., Davenport. The brunch is being chaired by alum Kathy (Curry) Medhus. We are reserving a room for brunch, please RSVP by Sept. 28th. Cost of brunch is \$17.68; total includes tax and gratuity. Call Gabby Rafferty at (309) 786-8372 or e-mail her at gkr1922@juno.com.



Left to Right: Bob Merchie, Gabby Rafferty, and Janet Rossmiller-Miller enjoy the festivities at our Homecoming 2004 event.

Alumni grant helps young artist

For the past two years, the Marycrest Alumni Association has presented a donation to the Humility of Mary Housing Inc. to assist one of its residents.

Last year's grant helped pay for tuition of two classes at Scott Community College. Jovita, 28, began her classes in May in computer graphics. She has applied for student assistance for the fall semester, but did not have time to apply for aid in time for spring classes. This will be Jovita's first experience in college. She is already a blooming young artist and hopes to be able to work as an illustrator for books. Jovita is the mother of one child, 8-year-old Nicole.

The Humility of Mary Housing staff expresses their thanks to the board and its alumni for giving this opportunity to Jovita.



Jovita (right), and her daughter Nicole; recipients of our donation to the Humility of Mary Housing Inc.

Letter from the Alumni Board President

Dear Marycrest friends,

It's hard to believe it's been three years since we said our goodbyes to our beloved college. I still find myself driving down 12th Street every once in a while just to check on her. While my heart still wants to find the college and all the people who made it what it was -- it's a new scene there today.

We had the privilege last fall to host our first Homecoming at the new Marycrest Senior Campus. For the afternoon, we were back in our old buildings, reacquainting with old friends and meeting new ones.

We toured some of the buildings that real estate developer Chris Ales has transformed and we were so impressed. The dorms, where many of our own friendships were born, are enjoying new lives as apartments for seniors -- including a few Sisters and alums. We hope many more of you will join us this when we return for Homecoming 2005 on Oct. 1. We'd also like you to join us this year in helping achieve an overdue goal: expanding our mailing/e-mail list. We reach hundreds of members of the Marycrest family already -- alums, faculty, staff and other longtime friends. But there are thousands of us out there who likely do not know of our ongoing efforts to keep the spirit alive.

Please help us re-connect the whole Marycrest family. Share with us your addresses or e-mails for friends you made at Marycrest, or tell them to check our Web site at www.marycrestalumni.com and e-mail us their own contact information.

We're not interested in soliciting their money. We're interested in telling them Marycrest is still alive in the hearts of all of us who volunteer on the board, those of you who attend our events, and those who have offered their kind words and support as we have keep the alumni association alive. So please help us spread the word. Direct friends to our Web site or give us their address and we'll mail them a newsletter.

Also help us share more of the good news about what's happening in your life. Tell us about your new job, a family wedding, a new baby or any news you want your Marycrest friends to know. We'll announce it in our upcoming newsletters. Send it to any board member or e-mail any of us.

Please remember to include MARYCREST in your subject line.

Please keep in touch, so we can keep in touch.

Sincerely,
Jennifer DeWitt
Marycrest Alumni President



Janet Rossmiller-Miller officially passes the Alumni Board Presidency to Jennifer DeWitt at Homecoming '04.

Marycrest Family Losses

Kathleen Coopmans, 66, of Moline, died April 22, 2005. The former Mary Kathleen Falconer was a Marycrest alum.

Shirley (Purvis) Riecke, 85, c'63, of Davenport, died April 9, 2005.

Sr. Claire Marie Patik, CHM, c'46, of Davenport, died April 3, 2005.

Rose Reid, Mother of **Cathy Reid Jennewein**, c'68 & sister of **Sr. Leona Mary Manning**, c' 43, died March 21, 2005.

Sr. Kathleen Eberdt, CHM, c'40, of Davenport, died March 15, 2005. She passed on her 92nd birthday. Sister Kathleen was Chair of the Division of Social Sciences at Marycrest and founder and director of the Marycrest Peace Center.

Adeline Ceclia Goering, 103, c'62, of Davenport, died March 13, 2005.

Kathleen Marie (Flaherty) Goering, 63, Rochester, MN, died Feb. 17, 2005.

Elinor (Kehoe) Hild, 76, died Jan. 3, 2005.

Harriet Vian (Marsh) Krava, 86, died Jan. 2, 2005.

Annette (Bloom) Bisanz, 62, East Moline, c'64, died Jan. 2, 2005.

John Mason Birrell, 41, of Williamsburg, Iowa, died Dec. 10, 2004.

Joyce (Gray) Gillis, 59, of Rock Island, died Dec. 3, 2004.

Donna Marihart, c'56, died in December, 2004.

Dorothy Blaha Hiegel, c'49, died in December, 2004.

Sr. Anita Fosdick, CHM, c'47, died Aug. 25, 2004.

Rosemary Shay, CHM, c'45, died July 30, 2004.

Otto Eich, brother of **Sr. Rose Mary Eich**, c'49.

Clarice Doty Flagel, c'54, died in 2004.

Pauline Goforth, 94, sister of **Sr. Ursala Keough**, c'52.

Jim Knowles, brother-in-law of **Sr. Regina Mary Cratty**, c'63.

Elinor Daniel Fedderson, c'40.

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Open Letter to Marycrest Alums from the Sisters of Humilty

Spring is a time of renewal. As we witness this renewal in the grass, the trees, and the flowers, let us also be witness of the "intangibles"-- the renewal of friendships and the renewal of community. Renewal comes in many forms.

As time goes on, the more comforting and refreshing it is to see a familiar face. We start to realize this when our contact and involvement begin fading. It's funny how we take it for granted when we're younger, in school and in the center of all of the action. Recently, Marycrest Alumni Association President, Jennifer DeWitt, and I met for lunch at the Humility of Mary Center in Davenport. It was like "old home week" when Jennifer walked into our dining room. The eyes of many Sisters lit up as they recognized "a Marycrest student!" It reaffirmed the fact that the spirit of Marycrest is still alive and the flame is still burning. At Marycrest, the world of academia was always filled with a buzz and a unique energy. This energy, along with the love and faith of many of the Sisters of Humility who made up the faculty and staff, made Marycrest not only a place to learn and teach, but a home for many students, and the Sisters. It brings up an interesting idea. When a family moves or a homestead is sold, the spirit of the family once found in that location doesn't disappear. The spirit lives on in the people who made the house a home. Isn't it the same with Marycrest? The school as many knew it, may not exist as a place to "come home to" but the people who made Marycrest what it was still exist and live in the spirit. Marycrest was more than a "place," it was a vision, a hope, an awakening and a home filled with love. Marycrest still exists in each graduate, each faculty member, each staffer...each Sister. In simplest terms, if all gathered in a tent, made up of canvas and wooden stakes, would it not be filled with the spirit of Marycrest?

Over 3,500 Marycrest alumni live in the state of Iowa and many of the Sisters who worked at Marycrest live right here in Davenport. If even half of those in Iowa came to the Marycrest reunion this fall, imagine the homecoming...regardless of the location! Now that's a lot of familiar faces!

The Sisters of Humility and the Marycrest Alumni Association have made a renewed commitment this Easter Season to keep our Marycrest family together. We'll be working together to inform alumni and hold events where you can reach out to the familiar faces who represent the spirit of Marycrest. We hope you will renew your spirit and come home to Davenport for the upcoming reunion or visit us at The Humility of Mary Center or Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat Center, in Wheatland, IA.

The spirit of Marycrest should be celebrated!

Nancy Kay Cerny
CHM development director

Class Notes

Honors

- **Sister Elizabeth Anne Schneider**, CHM, c'49 was recognized for her service to the Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center.

- **Sister Anna Maria Orozco**, CHM, c'49 was honored by Msgr. Schmidt and other Papal Volunteers for Latin America board members for her 36 years of missionary work in the highlands of Chiapas, Mexico.
- Sister Louise Levandowski, BVM, Davenport, celebrated 50 years in religious life in 2004. In addition to teaching at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Davenport, she was on the development staff at Assumption High School, Davenport, and served as mailroom manager at Marycrest.

- **Robert Romie**, c'98, is the technical library director for the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, Rock Island District, has been selected to participate in "Synergy 2005: The Illinois Library Leadership Initiative"

Other News and Notes

- **Angie (Gilpin) Terronez**, c'85, was profiled in a story in The Quad-City Times about para-educators.

- **Carmelita Pope**, appeared in the Spring 2005 Show People Magazine for her part in the play, Maid in the Ozarks.

- **Michele Rafferty**, c'77, Marathon, FL, is the marketing director of the Marathon Turtle Hospital in the Florida Keys.

- Katherine Bodenbender, mother of Dr. Katherine Bodenbener, former Marycrest nursing of instructor, celebrated her 100th birthday on April 19, 2005.

- Harry Fisher, who taught full time at Marycrest for twelve years, started a tenure track position at Eureka College in Eureka, IL. in the Fall of 2004. He is an Associate Professor of Business Administration teaching management and marketing courses.

- **Lisa McCluskey**, c'2000, is currently employed as the Public Relations Manager for Martin Memorial Health Systems in Stuart, Florida.

Wedding

Julie Rash, former Marycrest admissions recruiter, was wed to Dr. Matt Ulven on April 14 in Edwardsville, IL. They are moving to Waterloo, Iowa.