

## **Sister Marilyn Brinker, CHM, 71**

**May 19, 1943 - April 4, 2015**

**JOHNSTON** — Marilyn Ann Brinker was born May 19, 1943, in Westphalia, to Edward and Cleta Hodapp Brinker, Jr. She entered the Congregation of the Humility of Mary on September 8, 1961, and professed vows on July 28, 1964.

Sister Marilyn received a BA in Elementary Education from Marycrest College, Davenport, and a MA in Education from Drake University, Des Moines. Marilyn also received Clinical



Pastoral Education, University of Iowa Hospitals, Iowa City. Her ministry began with teaching one year at St. Vincent School in Davenport; several years at St. Pius X in Des Moines; Vice Principal/teacher at St. Patrick School in Missouri Valley, and at St. Edward School, Spring, TX. Sister Marilyn also served in schools in Burlington and Adel, Hampton, MN and Omaha, NE. After receiving Pastoral Certification, Marilyn served as a chaplain at St. John Medical Center, Tulsa, OK and Jane Phillips Medical Center, Bartlesville, OK. She retired from ministry in 2008 and moved to Des Moines. She resided at Bishop Drumm Retirement Center, Johnston for several months before her death.

Sister Marilyn wrote inspiring poetry. She began in 1967 and wrote even more poetry while dealing with the sick and dying and with her own chronic illnesses. In 2009, Marilyn published a book of poems entitled, *A Joy- Filled Journey*. Sister Marilyn Brinker, CHM, (Sister Mary Edmund) died April 4, 2015 at Bishop Drumm Retirement Center in Johnston at age 71.

Sister Marilyn was preceded in death by her parents and brother, Kenneth. She is survived by a brother, Clarence (Karen), Harlan; sisters, Jane (Robert) Toller, Tyler, TX and Joann (Steve) Wright, Pueblo, CO; and sister-in-law, Lin Brinker of Harlan; nieces and nephews as well as sisters and associates of her religious community.

A funeral Mass will be celebrated in Mary Queen of Peace Chapel in Johnston on April 20, 2015 at 10:30 a.m. Burial of cremated remains will follow in Harlan. Memorials may be made to: Congregation Humility of Mary.