

Sister Mary Ona Buswink
October 7, 1915 - March 22, 2012



Secular Name: Leona

Entrance: August 12, 1945

Place of Birth: Cherry, Illinois

Parents: Stanley and Anna

Siblings: Frank, William, Stanley, Joseph, Alexander, Anna

Elementary School: St. Anthony, Detroit

High School: Western High, Detroit

*Higher Education: B.S. Elementary Education
M.A. Education*



Ministry:

SS Peter and Paul in Grand Rapids, MI, was among Sister Ona's assignments and it held her fondest memories. Other assignments included St. Gabriel, Pittsburgh, St. Valentine in Bethel Park, and Holy Trinity in Moon Run. Sister Ona was known for bringing out the best in her students, teaching them much more than reading, math and social studies. She helped them believe in themselves.



She pursued learning all her life, and loved to share new and unique pieces of information with others. She was always open to, and interested in the "new." She delighted in fixing things. She was even given her own workshop in the basement of Assisi Hall. She even knew how to fix and maintain cars. She was the very first Sister here to obtain a PA driver's license and eventually became the transportation coordinator. Over the years she taught a remarkable number of our Sisters how to drive.

Throughout her life, Sister Ona was a model of gracious and generous service until the end. Her life was about recognizing God's presence and life in everything and everyone. The song *God Beyond all Names* by Bernadette Farrell has this refrain which sums up her life:

*"All around us we have known you, all creation lives to hold
you, in our living and our dying we are bringing you to birth"*