

Millie Niewahner '59

Millie Niewahner so influenced the lives of her classmates and others that the Class of 1959, on the occasion of their 50th Reunion, established the Class of 1959 – Millie Niewahner Scholarship. Today, that scholarship provides tuition assistance to a worthy Villa junior or senior.

Millie had wanted to be a Benedictine Sister, however chose to remain at home to help her mother care for her seven siblings. She never regretted her decision and went on to live a life guided by Benedictine values. Nominated by a number of her classmates and friends, this award affirms the Benedictine spirit Millie embodied.

After graduating from Villa, Millie began working in the insurance industry. Just three years after starting as a clerk, Millie was recruited by another firm to become a surety bond underwriter trainee. This was no small feat for two reasons. First, it was generally a position for college graduates, which she was not. Second, it was a business dominated by men. Despite workplace challenges, Millie climbed the ladder ultimately serving as a field supervisor over a five state region. When asked how she achieved so much, she modestly suggested it was the Villa value.

Millie was steadfast and loving. She took early retirement to care for her ailing mother, and she often visited her former teachers at St. Walburg Monastery. Millie fought a protracted battle with cancer, and in April, 2010, she passed into the loving arms of her Lord.



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