

St. Joseph's Hospital

SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS

416 WEST ELEVENTH STREET
ALLIANCE, NEBRASKA 69301

DIAL 762-2525

May 1974

Our dear Sister Agatha Hagan, Inez Jeanette Hagan before her profession, died at St. Joseph's Hospital on March 13, 1974 at 2:10 a.m. The Sisters had taken turns praying at her bedside the night before but retired when her condition seemed unchanged. Mrs. Georgia Hennings, R.N. was with Sister Agatha and noticing a change in her breathing summoned Sister Ruth. She and Sister Kathleen began to say the rosary and Sister Agatha ceased to breath at about the third decade. She just slept away.

Sister Agatha was born in St. Joseph, Missouri in 1904. Her parents were William and Daisy Hagan and she had two brothers, Chester and Horace. Her brother and sister-in-law, Agnes and Horace Hagan, still reside in Alliance about two blocks from the hospital. They were daily visitors at Sisters bedside, and frequently brought homemade cookies and bread. Sister Agatha enjoyed most of her meals up until the day before her death. She also enjoyed her television programs.

Sister Agatha came to St. Joseph's here in Alliance in February of 1973 and cooked for the sisters until she became too ill. On September 17 she was anointed here and taken to St. Joseph's Hospital in Denver on the 22nd. After many tests she returned to Alliance in October. She made other trips to Denver but when told by her doctor the nature of her illness she chose to return to Alliance without having surgery for the brain tumor. She entered the hospital for the last time on October 29, 1973. She gradually lost the use of her right side and her power of speech, but she enjoyed hearing news about the sisters and would respond with a squeeze of her hand.

Sister Agatha received instructions in the Catholic religion from Sister Tarcissa, a former superior at St. Agnes Academy here, and was baptised by Msgr. P. J. Manning. She entered our Order in Stella Niagara, New York and it was there she professed her vows in 1936. She worked at least some time in each of our four hospitals. She trained as a nurse anesthetist in Springfield, Illinois and worked in that capacity for a number of years.

It seems of interest to note that Sister Agatha Hagan was born in a town dedicated to St. Joseph; she worked in two hospitals dedicated to St. Joseph; she spent the last days of her life in two hospitals dedicated to St. Joseph; and she passed from this life to her eternal reward in a month dedicated to St. Joseph. We trust he was at the gates of Heaven to welcome her with open arms.

We continue to miss Sister Agatha very much but rejoice that she is now with God. May she rest in peace.

Sincerely in Christ,

Sister Mary Ruth

Sister M. Ruth and Sisters
at St. Joseph's Hospital