

ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL  
Minot, North Dakota

January 3, 1980

Dear Sisters and Friends,

As quietly and simply as she had lived, Sister Pauline Dohm gave her soul back to God on Saturday, December 29, 1979. Hospitalized since October 9th of this year, when she had exploratory surgery for cancer, Sister had maintained her bright smile and good humor until Christmas Day, when there was a noticeable change for the worse. The Sisters then began a day and night vigil at her bedside until the end came, four days later.

Born in Belden, Nebraska on October 8, 1909, Sister Pauline entered our Congregation in 1936 and was professed on August 17, 1937. She graduated from St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing in Alliance, Nebraska in 1941. In 1944 she came to Minot to take on the job of Supervisor of the medical floor of St. Joseph's Hospital. Since that time, with the exception of a three-year span in which she returned to O'Neill, Nebraska, Sister Pauline spent 31 years in service to our hospital, nineteen years on the nursing staff and the past twelve years on the Pastoral Care team.

Having suffered a myocardial infarction in May, 1979, Sister Pauline spent several weeks recuperating, and then made an extended home visit with relatives in Nebraska. Following her return she was scheduled for surgery and it was found that she had cancer, so invasive that it was inoperable, and she elected not to have any chemotherapy or radiation therapy. She remained hospitalized until her death, since continuous intravenous therapy was necessary because of her inability to eat or drink anything without becoming violently ill. Her brother Ray and several of her nieces and nephews made the trip from Nebraska to visit with her, and she enjoyed their visits immensely. A grand niece and nephew stationed at the Minot Air Base visited Sister frequently and performed many acts of service during her illness and following her death.

The Church was filled to capacity for the funeral, held Wednesday, January 2. Each person present had experienced her kindness, either to themselves or to some member of their families. Five priests from the diocese concelebrated the Mass of the Resurrection with Father Francis McKanna, pastor of St. Leo's Church. Five nephews and three close friends served as pallbearers; Dr. and Mrs. Brian Briggs provided the music, accompanied by Mrs. John Strohm at the organ.

A copy of the proclamation issued by Minot Mayor Chester M. Reiten is enclosed as a testimony to the esteem in which Sister Pauline is held by the people of Minot and the surrounding communities. May her example of generosity and charity inspire us to even greater efforts in serving God's people.

Yours in Christ  
The Sisters in Minot