



**Joan Marie LaChapelle
1930 - 2015**



The Salem Catholic Schools Foundation notes, with sorrow, the passing of Joan Marie

LaChapelle. Joan LaChapelle was a dedicated educator. She was 85 years old when she passed away on July 24, 2015.

LaChapelle began in the education field at the age of 24 until her second retirement when she turned 69.

LaChapelle was hired as the first lay principal at St. Joseph School, and served from 1981 to 1987. She then retired. From 1996 to 1997, she was brought back from retirement and served as interim principal.

During her career, LaChapelle worked as an educator at other schools in the Salem area. She was a teacher at the Salem School for the Deaf and principal at St. Mary Catholic School in Stayton

"For 45 years she touched the lives of thousands of students, parents and teachers with her respectful and loving devotion to Catholic education, as well as for her disciplining stare, a.k.a. the "Principal Joan look" (quote taken from her obituary online).

Kevin Mannix recalled LaChapelle's work: "I was Chairman of the St. Joseph School Board for the first five years that Joan served as principal. As the first lay principal, Joan faced the challenges of the changes occurring in Catholic education. She met those challenges with dedication and good humor. She worked well with all of our community in assuring faith-filled, high quality education for our children. She was a tremendous positive influence in so many ways. We are grateful for her outstanding service."

The Foundation asks all in the community to keep Joan LaChapelle and her family in your prayers.

To read more about LaChapelle and view her online obituary:

http://www.ungerfuneralchapel.com/fh/obituaries/obituary.cfm?o_id=3259464

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