

Circular Letter for Sr. Gertrude Maria Schroeder, SS.CC.



Sister Gertrude Maria Schroeder,(ne Gertrude Erika) was born on July 12, 1923 in Pastow, Rostock Germany the only daughter of Karl Rudolph Schroeder and Helena Kayser. Sr. Gertrude first arrived in the United States at the age of 6, returned to Germany and then came back to Hawaii in 1936 where she attended Sacred Hearts Convent (age 13) and graduated from Sacred Hearts Academy in 1941.

Sr. Gertrude entered the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary on August 22, 1942 and made her first profession on September 3, 1944. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Education from University of Dayton in 1959 and her Bachelor of Arts degree in Art from the University of Hawaii in 1977. She also attained her Masters in Secondary Education from the University of Hawaii in 1984.

As a young Sister, then known as Sr. Benigna, she taught Second Grade at Sacred Hearts Convent, then from 1945 to 1953 she taught grades 6, 7, 8, and 9th grades at Sacred Hearts Academy. A gifted artist, Sister taught Art at both Sacred Hearts Convent and Sacred Hearts Academy.

Then in 1984, Sr. Gertrude Maria was a member of the Formation community in Essen , Germany where she remained until 1991. Living in Germany she was able to re- acquaint herself with relatives in Eastern Germany and kept in contact with them until her death.

Among her artistic talents , Sister had a beautiful singing voice which helped to enhance the community liturgical services. She had a great love for our “GOOD MOTHER and ST. DAMIEN and expressed this love in her numerous art works.

Sister Gertrude suffered from many medical ailments but died peacefully on the morning of March 11, 2014.

We trust that she rests in the Hearts of Jesus and Mary but we ask that you remember her in your prayers.

United in the Sacred Hearts ,

Sr. Helene Wood, SS.CC.

Superior of Malia O Ka Malu