



In Memory of Sr. Lucille Blais

Given our Holy Cross lifetimes the friendship that grew between Sr. Lucille and me happened in a moment. Although we were acquainted we only began to really know each other when I moved back to NH in 2011 and began visiting HCHC regularly.

It was during this time that we began Sunday afternoon Scrabble with Sr. Cecile Lebeau. I was impressed with her patience and care for Sr. Cecile who couldn't hear a thing but rarely lost a game. Sr. Lucille played on faithfully with good spirit though she rarely won a game.

Over time our visits became longer and our conversations both interesting and stimulating. Lucille was a woman who loved nature and the birds. She loved and valued learning, reading, and trying new things. She did not use her age or failing health as a reason to quit. Instead, she met these challenges head-on. I saw evidence of that in her painting and, as her technology advisor. I experienced that first-hand in her ongoing progress in the use of her tablet for communication, games, art, and Facebook.

Lucille really, really wanted to master ZOOM so she could remain engaged with family and Congregation. You may remember that the whole Congregation experienced that effort during one or two of our meetings.

The most important thing that will stay with me forever is a serious conversation we had. Lucille knew her shortcomings and in that conversation told me that she was trying very hard to change and to overcome them. There was never any thought that she was too old to change...there was no "quit" in Lucille.

Lucille was and, I suggest, still is incredibly supportive of my ministry and work. I am and will always be inspired by her courage, her strength, her determination, and her love. Getting to know her has been a wonderful gift.

Thank you, Lucille. Rest comfortably in the arms of your God. I love you.

Sr. Elaine Poitras