



SISTER ELIZABETH OLSEN, BVM, (Paul Thomas)

December 11, 1941 – October 12, 2026

Obituary

Sister Elizabeth Olsen, BVM, (Paul Thomas), 84, of Mount Carmel Bluffs, Dubuque, Iowa, died Monday, Oct. 12, 2026.

Committal service with natural burial was held on Wednesday, Oct. 14, 2026. Burial was in the Mount Carmel Cemetery.

Sharing of Memories will begin at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 20, 2026, in the Mary Frances Clarke Chapel at Mount Carmel Bluffs followed immediately by a memorial Mass.

A MEMORIAL MASS WILL ALSO BE CELEBRATED AT BLESSED TRINITY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN MISSOULA, MONT., ON FRIDAY, OCT. 23 AT 11 A.M. MST.

She was born on Dec. 11, 1941, in Butte, Mont., to Ralph and Monica (Prendergast) Olsen. She entered the BVM congregation July 31, 1960, from Immaculate Conception Parish, Butte, Mont. She professed first vows on Feb. 2, 1963, and final vows on Aug. 15, 1968.

Sister Liz ministered as hospital chaplain at St. Clare Hospital in Monroe, Wis., and St. Patrick Hospital in Missoula, Mont; she served as a parish minister in parishes in Wolf Point and Anaconda, both in Montana. She also served as an elementary teacher at All Hallows, Sacramento and St. Gertrude, Stockton, both in California, St. George, Seattle, and St. Anthony, Missoula, Mont.

She was preceded in death by her parents, brothers Albert (Nancy) Olsen and Thomas James “Jim” Olsen; a sister Anne Marie Olsen (Albert “Sonny”) Semsak; and a sister-in-law Stephanie Olsen. She is survived by a brother Paul Olsen, Helena, Mont.; a sister-in-law Cleo Olsen, Butte, Mont.; nieces; nephews; cousins; and the Sisters of Charity, BVM, with whom she shared life for 66 years.

**Memorial Mass for Sister Liz will be celebrated
at Blessed Trinity Parish, 1475 Eaton Street, Missoula, MT
on Friday, October 23, 2026, at 11:00 am.**