



## Margaret Pavlik

August 6, 2013

Pavlik, Margaret age 89, just shy of her 90th birthday. A lifelong resident of Mpls., attended Holy Name School and graduated from Central High School. Very proud of her service to her country as a United States Marine. Also, proud of her service to the children of Mpls as a school teacher for 32 years. She taught 1st grade at Waite Park, Whittier and Wilder Elementary Schools. Predeceased by her beloved parents, Marcella and Albert Pavlik; her inspirational older sister, Sr. Marcella Marie; her sister and best friend Grace Whalen; and her adored brother, Joe. Survived by sister- in-law, Mary Pavlik; and 6 nieces to whom she will always be the "glamorous aunt": Ellen Olson, Patricia Shimkus, Anne Pavlik, Beth Hamilton, Margi Netko and Joanne Pavlik. Memorial Mass of Christian Burial 11 AM Tuesday, Aug. 13. Visitation one hour prior to service at the Church of the Holy Name, 3637 11th Ave S., Mpls., with private interment at Resurrection Cemetery. Memorials preferred to the Mpls Children's Hospital. [www.Washburn-McReavy.com](http://www.Washburn-McReavy.com) Nokomis Park Chapel 612-721-1651

# Tribute Wall

DF

“ Dear Pavlik Family:

*As you celebrate Margaret’s life on Tuesday, I’d like to add my voice to those honoring this faithful servant.*

*I grew up on Lincoln Street in N.E. Minneapolis, about three blocks from Waite Park School. In the fall of 1961, I began the first grade, and Miss Pavlik was my teacher. I suppose nearly everyone remembers something about the teacher who first taught them to read, but Miss Pavlik’s influence went beyond that.*

*Five months earlier in March of 1961, my older brother, my twin brother, and I lost my dad to a heart attack. I felt very self-conscious about this at the time, and I think my mother and others at school sensed it too. Miss Pavlik softened the way by her encouragement and by letting me be “a helper” around the classroom. On a few occasions I remember her letting me stay 15 minutes after school (with the consent of my mother) and putting me to work clapping blackboard erasers and such. By the time the first month or so passed, I remember thinking, “School is really fun, and I’m going to like going to school every year!” That attitude followed me through public school, and I’m pretty certain it was an attitude established somehow that year.*

*A few other “memory snapshots” I have, remembered of course through the eyes of a six-year-old:*

*Miss Pavlik had a bearing of confidence, a very calm and non-anxious presence, and I don’t remember her ever yelling.*

*She had a clear, strong voice.*

*She wrote a lot of words on pieces of tag board. Sometimes she used a crayon pencil that made a neat, clicking sound when she wrote.*

*Because I was a kid that looked at the floor a lot, I specifically*

*remember Miss Pavlik's shoes were different from the hard oxfords worn by other teachers. They were more the color of tanned deer hide, sort of like Hush Puppies. Funny the things you remember!*

*All these observations may not sound very profound. They may be the sorts of things all good teachers like Margaret practiced. But I want you to know how immensely grateful I am now as I remember 52 years later. Caring individuals often are placed there in our lives, just at the right time, to get us through difficult times. My wife and two sons have heard me speak of these memories as well.*

*God's peace,  
Rev. Dennis Frank*

*P.S. For 30 years I have been an ELCA Lutheran minister, and I live in the small town of Hartland, MN Phone: 507-845-2825 Email: krisden@gofast.am*

---

**Dennis Frank** - August 12, 2013 at 05:19 PM