

## Margaret Bloczynski

This week we are happy to name Margaret Bloczynski as the 130th inductee in Marshfield's 150: Heroes and Leaders, Past and Present register. Margaret Bloczynski was nominated by her daughter, Jane Wroblewski..

Even though Mrs. Margaret Bloczynski was born in Chicago, Illinois and grew up in Thorp, she considered Marshfield her home. She came to Marshfield to go to school at St. Joseph's School of Nursing and graduated in 1945.

After graduating, Margaret worked as a nurse, mostly in pediatrics at St. Joseph's Hospital for the next 44 years, retiring in 1989. She was Head Nurse on the Pediatric Ward for many years. She was affectionately known as "Mrs. B." to both hospital staff and patients.

Her co-workers and patients loved her for her devotion and high quality nursing skills. Often when they were unable to get an IV started in the Emergency Room, they would call on her assistance. She was so well loved that many of her former patients sent her Christmas cards until her death in 2010.

As head nurse, Margaret worked with local charities to make sure the children that had to stay at the hospital over the Christmas holiday had gifts. She also started a tutoring program for the patients, so they wouldn't fall behind in their studies when they had extended hospital stays. She often gave up her Mother's Day corsages to her young patients that would never get flowers of their own. Additionally, she took up candy for other holidays to make sure that all the children had treats.

She helped develop a program to educate children in Marshfield and the surrounding area about what to expect if they or a family member need a hospital stay. Upon retiring, she served as tour coordinator for St. Joseph's Hospital for this program. She also used her nursing skills as a volunteer rocking babies and helping at the blood bank and at the shot clinics. Margaret remained in close touch with nursing friends joining in monthly luncheon dates and writing a yearly Christmas card to all the friends in her graduating class updating everyone on the news from all the friends.

Besides caring for the children at St. Joseph's Hospital, Margaret cared for her nine children that she had with her husband of 57 years, John Bloczynski. She was involved in their lives and supported them by attending school events and volunteering for social groups. She was a Cub Scout leader, Girl Scout leader, and Camp Fire Girl Leader.



Margaret was a devout Catholic and a member of Saint John's and Sacred Heart Catholic Churches. She was a long-time member of the Parish Council of Catholic Women at Sacred Heart Catholic Church. After her retirement, she continued to share her time and talent as a volunteer Eucharistic Minister at Saint Joseph's Hospital, the House of the Dove and for home-bound parishioners of Sacred Heart Catholic Church.