



Très Bien

to

Ann Abbenhaus Halenkamp

Villa Duchesne Class of 1974

Ann, the fourth child of Gerald (Jerry) and Mary Claire Abbenhaus, was the calm amidst the storm. Her first night home from the hospital she slept all night, much to her parents' delight.

To older brothers Jerry, Jr., Danny, Frank, and younger siblings Mary and Philip she was, and still is, an anchor. She helped her oldest brother, Jerry, Jr., regain independence after a spinal cord injury in Vietnam confined him to a wheelchair.

Ann married George Halenkamp III in 1980, and they moved 18 times in the next nine years: Ohio, Oregon, Minnesota, Tennessee, Florida, back to Minnesota, and Paraguay twice, finally ending in St. Louis. The moves became increasingly more complicated as the family grew to five children: George IV, Christopher, Timothy, Katie, and Andrew.

Ann has taught religious education and preparation for Baptism and First Communion and served on parish councils in various cities and is currently a member of the Stewardship committee at St. Anselm. She has chaired annual picnics and auctions for St. Joseph Institute for the Deaf, Priory, and Villa Duchesne and Oak Hill.

Ann served as liaison for Young Friends of Birthright, president of Birthright, and chair of their dinner dance. She is now corresponding secretary.

Amazingly, she finds time to run marathons and participate in Ironman distance triathlons. Ann was National Champion and has competed in Olympic distance triathlons. In 2008, she qualified to be part of Team USA, competing in the Netherlands. She is currently fourth in the world for her age group and has qualified for the National Championships and will compete in Las Vegas this November.

St. Philippine Duchesne said: "... God does not require great achievements but a heart that holds nothing back." Ann, you have NUMEROUS achievements AND held NOTHING back - *Très Bien!*

Therese Krack Abbenhaus
Villa Duchesne 1964
April 1, 2011