

## *Sister Norma Loraditch, SSND – 70 Year Jubilee!*



*"I wanted to be like her!"*

**Sister Norma Loraditch** remembers her school years fondly, having been taught by SSNDs for her 12 years. When she entered high school, she met a Sister who would change her life. Sister Mary Leonore Wing, SSND, was "the best person I knew."

"She taught me English in the 10th and 11th year. We never discussed it, but without Sister Leonore I do not think I would have entered SSND. I just watched her and decided I wanted to be like her."

Sister Norma also wanted to be like her father, an insurance agent who would dig into his own pocket to pay the premiums of their less fortunate neighbors, some of whom were African American. She says her own ministry reflected her resulting lack of fear of other ethnic persons. She happily served in African American schools as an educator.

When asked why she entered the School Sisters of Notre Dame, Sister Norma says simply, "I was impressed by what I saw, and God called me."

When asked, she offers wisdom for those who are discerning their own vocation. It comes from a lifetime of personal learning earned through her own service and prayer.

"Be yourself," she says. "Pray often, for yourself and others."

*Born in Cumberland, the former Shirley Ann Loraditch, 91, taught primary grades at Notre Dame Preparatory School, served as an assistant to the director of St. Martin's House in Ridgely, and taught in the Women in Transition program there. Sister Norma served in volunteer ministry at Villa Assumpta beginning in 2010, and today serves in prayer and presence on the third floor of Rosary Community.*