Adele Mary Stommel was born in 1950 to Kenneth and Adele Stommel in the Michigan county of St. Clair, where her father was an attorney and circuit court judge. She was in the younger contingent of four brothers and two sisters. Growing up in proximity to the St. Clair River and Lake Huron, she had a love for the outdoors and especially boating.

Her family moved to Port Huron where Adele started her sophomore year at Port Huron Catholic High School. She entered the IHMs in 1970 at the formation house located in the Detroit parish of Corpus Christi. Early formation was provided by Sisters Martha Rabaut and Lorraine (Honey) Humphrey. Her Novitiate included living in Ionia with our sisters, participation in the pastoral ministry program at the State Psychiatric Institute in Dubuque, Iowa, and a 30-day retreat in Guelph, Ontario.

Adele attended Marygrove College, graduating in 1974. “Intense and private,” “insightful and honest” were some of the qualities friends noticed in her.

After graduating from Marygrove, she began her ministry as a directress at the Hall of the Divine Child. From that position she began to diversify into three fields of service: financial, medical and technological. She worked in the IHM Business Office and then as a medical technologist in various locations. Ginny Pfau, IHM, a long-time friend, thinks Carrizozo, N.M., where she worked as a med tech might have been Adele’s favorite experience.

After earning an MBA at the University of Toledo, Adele worked at Electronic Data Systems until becoming registrar at Marygrove in 1987. As Northeast Provincial treasurer, she participated in the move from provinces and their finances to Monroe. These changes led to a new opportunity of being certified in spiritual direction from the program at Colombiere. She continued this ministry with teaching at University of Detroit-Mercy and Marygrove College until she started a new ministry as the director of technical services at Mercy High School in Farmington.

As the pandemic developed, volunteer work at the Motherhouse in the Shoppe, Library and on the “Tech Committee” gave way to enjoying more time at local parks, walking with friends, helping neighbors here and there and volunteering at Promedica at the reception desk until restrictions at IHM are lifted.