Anne Brunett (Sister Rita Margaret)

Anne left the sisterhood in the 1980s so her records are closed by the Adrian Dominican Sisters (ADS). Fortunately, the story does not stop there. Her oldest sibling sister Rita was also a Dominican, Sister Raymond Cecile, and remained one until her passing in 2025. As a result the ADS has a biography for Sister Raymond Cecile on the ADS website as well a "Sisters Story" oral history on YouTube. Both references include information on Anne which is highlighted below.

Sister Rita Margaret was born Anne Brunett to Raymond and Cecilia (Gill) Brunett around 1937. She was the second oldest girl in a family of four boys and eight girls which included in order: Raymond, Alex, Rita, Michael, Anne, William, Grace, John, Rose, Jean, Mary, Paul, Ruth, and Margaret. The family lived on the east side of Detroit in St Ambrose Parish. The siblings all attended St Ambrose grade school but for Anne it's likely she followed her older sister Rita to an Adrian Prep School for an accelerated high school program. Rita was just 16 when she took the name Sister Raymond Cecile in 1951.

What is known is that Anne had two other siblings besides Rita who joined the ADS, Rose and Mary. A photo in Rita's bio shows the four Brunett Sisters all together in their habits. It was taken circa 1955. The four sisters are listed below by the ADS and birth name. Included are the years the three who left were nuns.

Sister Raymond Cecile (Rita).
Sister Rita Margaret (Anne) 28 years.
Sister Rita Gerald (Rose) 18 years.
Sister Rita Michael (Mary) 7 years.

While we can not be exact as to when Anne passed, what we do know from Rita's "Sisters Story" is that Anne died three years after leaving the ADS where she served for 28 years. Approximating a timeline from the known dates, suggests Anne was 49 when she departed around 1986.

Besides those in the family who joined the ADS, Anne's second oldest brother Alex, entered the priesthood and eventually rose to become Archbishop of Seattle, Washington.

When Anne was Sister Rita Margaret teaching third grade at Our Lady of Loretto in Hometown, IL during 1961-1962 the best estimates suggest she was likely 24.