

Family Church of Connecticut: Lives Lived - Lourdes Swarts

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February 17, 2025



Lourdes Swarts (née Zanin) was born on May 23, 1957, in the town of Florai, Brazil and raised in town of Terra Boa, Parana in the southwestern part of Brazil. Lourdes was the eldest child of Batista Zania and Conceição Aparecida Zanin.

Lourdes' birth was one of sacrifice: due to complications in the birth, her mother was told that her baby had to be terminated or she herself would likely die. Her mother chose to go forth with the birth, promising God that if they both lived, that she would name the baby Lourdes, after the healing spring in France. The mother and baby would live and the child was indeed named Lourdes (no middle name). The mother would go on to have four more children.

She joined the movement when she was 18. At the age of 19, she pioneered a city in Brazil, traveling with only a bus ticket and no money and sleeping in the bus station the first night. After one year, she had established a center with 19 members.

Lourdes came to the United States in 1980. On February 2, 1981, she was married via civil ceremony to Frederick A. Swarts, and they were blessed in Holy Matrimony by the Rev. and Mrs. Moon in Madison Square Garden on July 1, 1982. Lourdes became a US citizen on August 4, 2000. She held many missions in the United States, including working as a missionary, and serving with CAUSA, American Leadership Conference, American Family Coalition, Pennsylvania Family Coalition, Twenty-First Century Speakers, and so forth. Most recently, she served as Public Relations Director for World Peace and Unification Sanctuary.

On February 4, 2025, Lourdes passed away at her home in Pennsylvania. She is survived by her husband of 44 years and their four children—Jonathan, Katya, Kristine, and Hudson—as well as her siblings Alvaro, Marlene, Edmilson, and Roberto.

Lourdes is remembered as someone who devoted her whole life in loving and sacrificial service to God.

Here is a slideshow of some photos of Lourdes:

docs.google.com/presentation/d/1ZLtV7U8Lj6gO11oYPrlQvcMuSY433pelvqg2K0IGKzM/edit?usp=sharing











































































































