

| HISTORY OF SISTER | | Mary Evangelist L'Estrange | | SS# | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|-----------|
| Secular name | Susan Louise L'Estrange | Home address | Ireland | | |
| Date of birth | April 11, 1888 | Place of birth | Ireland | | |
| Date of baptism | 1888 | Place of baptism | Ireland | Convert? | No |
| Father's name | Thomas L'Estrange | Place of birth | Ireland | | |
| Mother's maiden name | Mary Donohoe | Place of birth | Ireland | | |
| Novitiate | Iowa City, Iowa | Entrance date | 10/7/1907 | Reception date | 5/24/1908 |
| Temporary vows | 6 ⁸ | Date | | Place | |
| Perpetual vows | Date | 6/3/1910 | Place | Iowa City | |
| Departure date | | Dismissal date | | Transfer date | |
| Death date | 5/5/1953 | Place | St. Louis, buried in Webster Groves | | |
| Remarks: | Sister transferred several times, successively to Des Moines, New Orleans, St. Louis. In Mercy Hospital, N.O., sister organized the School of Nursing and was a fine asset. | | | | |

Sister Mary Evangelist L'Estrange

Susan Louise L'Estrange was born on April 11, 1888, in Ireland, the home of her parents, Thomas L'Estrange and Mary Donahoe L'Estrange. After her Catholic upbringing and solid education, Susan and her sister came to the United States to enter the Mercy Order. They went to Iowa City and entered the Mercy novitiate together on October 7, 1907. They were received as novices together on May 24, 1908 Susan was called Novice Mary Evangelist, and her sister was Novice Mary Charles. On June 3, 1910, Mary Evangelist professed her religious vows. At some point, sister transferred from Iowa City to Des Moines, Iowa to work in the Mercy Hospital there. Later sister left Iowa and served in Stanton, Texas. When the old Mercy community in New Orleans was writing to borrow two Registered Nurses from Stanton, Mary Evangelist came from Stanton. She arrived in January of 1923, and served in St. Rita's Infirmary that year. She applied and was accepted into the New Orleans Mercy community on January 2, 1923. Sister was a fine nurse and worked efficiently from 1924 onward as long as she remained in New Orleans in the new Mercy Hospital on Annunciation Street.



Sister was quite obviously a free spirit with transfers from Iowa City to Des Moines, and then from Des Moines to Stanton, and, shortly thereafter, from Stanton to New Orleans. After a year of good service the community voted to accept her into the community. In fact, when all of Stanton wished to become part of the New Orleans community, the sisters voted to accept them. Stanton sisters had also voted for the Union, but the Archbishop of New Orleans refused to allow that Union, and an incoming bishop in Stanton refused to let the sisters join with Oklahoma, which was their next step. In fact, those who had gone to Oklahoma had to return to Stanton at the new bishop's demand. Evidently, his order did not seem to affect Sister Mary Evangelist, as Stanton had not always been her community. She remained at Mercy hospital until the Union of the Religious Sisters of Mercy. When provincial superiors met her, she must have requested to transfer from Mercy Hospital to St. John's in St. Louis, as that was her next destination.

She had done well in organizing the mercy Hospital School of Nursing, and serving where needed during the original organization of the whole hospital. Once all the organization was complete, and nurses were graduating annually, she was ready to relocate. She was at St. John's Hospital in St. Louis when her life came to an end. God called to himself on May 5, 1953. She had served in various Mercy hospitals for forty-five years. She was buried in the Mercy Cemetery at Webster Groves, Missouri. May she rest in peace now that she found the Lord she always sought in many places.