Legacy Project

April 6th

Brother James William Caley, C.S.C.

born: 16 December 1938

died: 6 April 1999



Jim was born in Cleveland but the family moved to Detroit where he attended schools. He joined Holy Cross at Watertown in 1958. He went to the novitiate and made first profession in 1960. He earned a bachelor's degree at St. Edward's University in 1963. He taught at Boysville, St. Charles, and River Grove until he was assigned to Bangladesh in 1965, teaching at high schools there. He returned in 1971 and taught at Gibault and Boysville. He earned a Master's Degree in Social Work at Tulane University in 1978. He counseled clients at Catholic Charities in Stockton, CA, and then served on the staff of the Family and Children's Center in South Bend. Jim was a devoted and sympathetic guidance counselor at Holy Trinity and Hoban High for 4 years. Health problems with diabetes and leg amputations necessitated that he work from an electric wheelchair, but that didn't slow his enthusiasm. Jim was respectful, demanded honesty both of himself and others. He was a man very proud of his Irish heritage. Jim had the gift of gab, loved Notre Dame sports and cared for his family and friends with genuine affection. He could laugh at himself and tell students about his challenges and experiences. When diabetes took its toll physically, Jim's spirit grew stronger. He was sincerely missed by his students at Hoban. One said of him: "Br. Jim strove only for the happiness of his students, that's more courageous than anything I know."

A man's spirit sustains him in infirmity.

-- Proverbs 18:14

A best friend is like a four-leaf clover: hard to find and lucky to have. -- old Irish Saying