Legacy Project

March 14th

Brother William Joseph Doherty, C.S.C.

born: 23 May 1914

died: 14 March 2005



William was born in county Donegal, Ireland and came to the United States at the age of 25. He worked in Chicago for 3 years and entered the U.S. Army in 1943 serving in Hawaii. Upon discharge, he worked for the post office and joined the Brothers in 1950. Being twice the age of most of his fellow novices, he had to adapt to inconveniences. He spent the majority of his active ministry serving a 38-year assignment with the U.S. Post Office at Notre Dame. His Irish heritage, brilliant smile, and Irish brogue were just some of the qualities of his dedicated and reflective personality. William's intensity and drive were often seen in his approach to exercise. He enjoyed daily walks around the lakes at Notre Dame and pedaling his bicycle in the city. He was deeply interested in his family of origin as well as his religious family and kept current on the happenings of both. Every year he took the trip to Chicago to check on all his family. He was able to keep track of all relatives, a real feat for anyone, but he seemed to take on the role as the patriarch of his "Irish clan." It was fitting that he was buried on St. Patrick's Day.

"Love one another with mutual affection, anticipate one another in showing honor." -- Romans 12:10

May the road rise to meet you; May the wind be always at your back; May the sunshine warm your face; The rain fall softly on your field. And until we meet again, May God hold you in the palm of His hand. -- Irish Blessing