Legacy Project

May 21st

Brother James Edward Greteman, C.S.C.

born: 21 August 1933

died: 21 May 2008



James was born in Carroll, lowa and attended schools there. He studied at Creighton University and Iowa State University. He decided to enter Holy Cross in 1953, He went to Watertown and the novitiate, and made first vows in 1955. He went to St. Edward's University to finish his studies, graduating in 1956. He taught at Hoban High, and then St. Joseph's in South Bend. He desired missionary work and in 1960 was assigned to teach at St. John's School in Sekondi, Ghana for a year. He then went to Bangladesh to teach in Dacca. Health problems caused him to return to the States. He taught at Boysville, then for 10 years in Evansville. In 1976, James began a career as a marriage and family therapist. For the next 29 years, he served in Evansville, Indianapolis, and Sioux City, Iowa. In 1984 he studied at the Oblate School in San Antonio and was a therapist with the Catholic Charities in Salina, Kansas, James wrote three popular books on healing after divorce, one was translated into Spanish and Polish. In 1993 he moved to South Bend as a counselor with the Holy Cross Group and worked in private practice. James was also a talented artist who produced many commissioned paintings. He was a deeply empathetic and compassionate man and was quick to offer help and concern to both his clients and especially neighbors.

Bless Yahweh, who is my counselor, who in the night instructs my inmost self. -- Psalm 16:7

Good counselors lack no clients -- William Shakespeare