

Legacy Project

June 3rd

Brother Brian (Joseph) Lyon, C.S.C.

born: 9 July 1917

died: 3 June 2008



Brian was born in Loretto, Kentucky and attended schools there. In 1937 he joined Holy Cross and went to Watertown and the novitiate, where he pronounced his first vows in 1939. He studied at Notre Dame, earning a bachelor's degree in 1942. His first teaching assignment was to Holy Cross High in New Orleans and then to Vincentian Institute in Albany. In 1945, he was selected to be a missionary. For the next 42 years, he served Holy Cross in a variety of ways in India, East Pakistan, and Bangladesh. Brian was either a headmaster, principal, superior, teacher in schools, or director of the juniorate. He returned to the States in 1961, on leave for a year, and taught at Hoban High in Akron. He had earned a reputation in Bangladesh for his generosity and demeanor, often referred to as "that kind and gentle man." Even if he had only one free period in his schedule, he was ready to substitute for anyone. Brian left Bangladesh in 1988 to take up residence at Columba Hall. He avidly played golf whenever he could on the Notre Dame courses, even managing to score a couple of holes-in-one. He was noted for his cheerfulness and kindness to visitors to Columba Hall and to all his fellow Brothers.

He has shown me his marvelous kindness.

-- Psalm 31:21

A cloudy day is no match for a sunny disposition.

-- William Arthur Ward