

Legacy Project

December 18th

Brother John Charles Dobrogowski, C.S.C.

born: 21 August 1925

died: 18 December 2011



John was born in Milwaukee and attended school there. After graduating from Lincoln High School in 1943, he joined the U.S. Navy and served in many World War II battles in the South Pacific with the rank of Radioman 3rd Class. After the War he came home to Milwaukee and worked in a company on electronic equipment and instrumentation. From an advertisement in *Our Sunday Visitor*, he learned of the Holy Cross Brothers and went to Watertown in 1949 and the novitiate where he professed his vows in February 1951. He studied at St. Edward's University and was assigned in 1954 to teach at Cathedral High in Indianapolis for 6 years. He then joined the faculty of Gibault School and was its Director for 5 years until 1966. He taught at Bishop David High in Louisville and Holy Cross High in River Grove until 1969. He suffered with arthritic knees and upon medical advice moved to a warmer climate in Sherman Oaks, California at Notre Dame High School where he spent 37 years teaching and serving on the library staff. He loved the community there and entertained students with "one liners" and his quick puns. He was able to see humor in almost every situation. He loved movies and everything surrounding show business. He was an evaluator for the General Cinema Corporation and received free tickets and opportunities to meet Hollywood stars. In 2006, John returned to Notre Dame to reside at Schubert Villa. John's gift to others was to lighten life; make it more livable, more enjoyable.

Each must do as already determined, for God loves a cheerful giver.

-- 2 Corinthians, 9:7

Humor is the great thing. The minute it crops up, all our irritations and resentments slip away, and a sunny spirit takes their place. -- Mark Twain