

Legacy Project

October 23rd

Brother Albert Vincent Kern, C.S.C.

born: 24 September 1924

died: 23 October 2014



Albert was born in Highland Park, Michigan and attended St. Mary's Elementary School and High School, graduating in 1942. He worked as a clerk at Chrysler Corporation then entered the United States Navy in 1943 serving in the South Pacific and rising to the rank of Quartermaster in navigation work. He was honorably discharged in 1946 and worked as a postal clerk. He fulfilled a personal calling to join the religious life and entered the juniorate and went to the novitiate where he pronounced his first vows in 1948 as a Brother of Holy Cross. Albert spent more than 50 years as an efficient clerk or accountant in the business offices of community schools or administration. His ready smile and courteous help and service were his most striking characteristics. He served at Watertown, Gilmour Academy, New Orleans, Holy Trinity, Holy Cross Junior College, St. Joseph Farm and 25 years at the Province Business Office. Albert was noted for his devotion to physical fitness. At the end of the work day, he would head off to his favorite jogging trails around Notre Dame or other work sites. In 2001 he moved to St. Joseph Farm to assist his good buddy, Brother Donald Dunleavy, as the last caretakers of the property. He moved to Columba Hall in 2005 and then to Schubert Villa in 2009 where he was famous as a thoughtful good friend to all. His cheerfulness, infectious smile and genuine interest in others made everyone feel welcome. His actions always spoke louder than his words.

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

-- 2 Corinthians 9:7

*If there is any kindness or good thing I can do, let me do it now,
as I shall not pass this way again.*

-- William Penn