

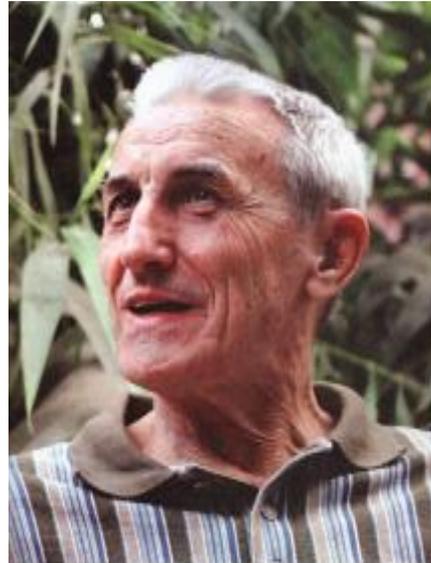
## *Legacy Project*

**October 15<sup>th</sup>**

### **Brother Ronald Frederick Drahozal, C.S.C.**

*born: 14 November 1937*

*died: 15 October 2018*



Ronald was born in Cedar Rapids, Iowa the second child among four brothers and one sister, of Frank and Mary (Pisney) Drahozal. He attended elementary and high school there graduating in 1955. He studied at Loras College in Dubuque and heard a talk by a Holy Cross Brother on foreign missions and decided to enter the formation programs at Notre Dame making first vows and was sent to St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas to complete his college studies graduating in 1961. He went to a workshop by missionary Brothers home from Bangladesh and wanted to join the foreign missions, but was delayed in obtaining documentation to go to southeast Asia. He taught at Hoban High in Akron and Catholic Central in Michigan before getting his "dream assignment to serve the poor." He had to learn the Bangla language in order to teach at Bandura, Nagori, Dhaka, and seminaries. In the 1980s he rode his bike around the country and noted the plight of young boys wandering about ports and terminals sniffing drugs and suffering addiction. Ron was a pioneer in getting help for these young addicts and was determined to help young children by seeking financial and material aid. He founded Bangladesh Assistance and Rehab facilities for young addicts and worked tirelessly to develop shelters, education, and innovative methods using the 12 steps for alcohol addiction. Since 1988 more than 40,000 drug dependents and families received services because Ronald realized his dream of safe environments for the poor and the needy.

One who has compassion on the poor, the Lord will repay for good deeds.

***Proverbs, 17***

There is no exercise better for the heart than reaching down

and lifting people up. -- ***John Holmes***