

Legacy Project

February 28th

Brother Henry Peter Skitzki, C.S.C.

born: 26 September 1938

died: 28 February 2015



Henry was born in Cleveland and grew up in the suburb of Fairview Heights. He attended St. Angela de Merici Elementary and Fairview Park High graduating in 1956. He worked for 6 years as a banquet chef at the Hilton Hotel in Cleveland and decided to follow his younger brother, Lawrence, by joining Holy Cross. He went to the novitiate making vows in 1963. Henry stayed on at St. Joseph's Novitiate to serve the community as Chef and train future cooks for 4 years. He cooked for Holy Cross communities at Archbishop Hoban High, Gilmour Academy, and Rancho San Antonio for 16 years. He moved to Notre Dame to join the food service at Moreau Seminary and then at Saint Mary's College. In 1985 he became head chef at Columba Hall for 13 years to train other cooks. He was the chef at Dujarie House and also worked as a cake decorator for Dairy Queen in South Bend. In 2001 he served as specialty chef at Saint Mary's College for 6 years. Due to health reasons, he had to retire from active leadership in kitchens. He volunteered to teach at Forever Learning Institute in South Bend and was famous for his Cooking Classes where "students" would each prepare a special food item and then enjoy their dinner together. During Henry's tour at Columba Hall, he hired a young Vietnamese man and he became close friends with the Nguyen family, helping with their various needs and the education of the children. In this way, Henry reached out to others by returning to God the gifts that God had given him in his life.

I am always grateful to God for whom i serve with a clear conscience.

-- 2 Timothy: 1:3

If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one.

-- Mother Teresa