

Legacy Project

February 11th

Brother Camillus (William) Kirsch, C.S.C.

born: 26 December 1916

died: 11 February 2016



Camillus died 10 months short of being 100 years old and what an exemplary life he led. Born in Indianapolis, he attended Cathedral High and graduated in 1934. He was influenced by the Brothers since he went directly to the juniorate in Watertown and novitiate in Rolling Prairie and pronounced his first vows in 1936. He went to Notre Dame where he graduated *magna cum laude* in 1940. He taught one year at Evansville Memorial and was selected to begin graduate studies at the University of Chicago earning a Master's in Social Work in 1943. He was assigned to Father Gibault School for Boys in Terre Haute, IN serving there for 27 years. He was the house-parent for young boys 9 to 12 and made a marked impression on them, since a large box of thank-you letters was found in his room. A plaque was erected honoring him for his outstanding example and commitment. After his mother died in 1971, he moved into the family home in Indianapolis where for 29 years he served as a volunteer psychiatric social worker at the State Hospital and also was chaplain at local nursing homes. He moved to Notre Dame and was an active resident within the Village. He had both knees and one hip replaced, but still was a vigorous exerciser with his daily 45-minute walks twice a day earning the nickname of the "Energizer Bunny" because he just kept on going! He was an eager conversationalist, devoted to and revered by his extended family. He truly was an exemplar for us all, to his family, students, and Holy Cross.

Set an example for believers, in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity.

1 Timothy 4:12

A good example is far better than a good precept.

-- Dwight L. Moody