

## *Legacy Project*

**April 3<sup>rd</sup>**

### **Brother Dominic (Joseph) Elder, C.S.C.**

*born: 22 March 1905*

*died: 3 April 1976*



Dominic was born in Paducah, Kentucky and attended Catholic schools there. After graduation, he was a fireman on the Illinois railroad and then worked as district manager for a cookware company. He joined Holy Cross, went to the juniorate in Watertown in 1929, and novitiate at Notre Dame, made his first vows in 1932. He began studies at Notre Dame, earned a bachelor's degree in 1936, later a master's (in 1942) and a PhD (in 1951). His first teaching assignment was to Taunton for 5 years, then he was superior of Dujarie Hall in 1941. For the next 20 years, Dominic was head of houses of formation for young brothers (Dujarie - 7 years; St. Joseph Novitiate - 8 years, Sacred Heart Juniorate - 6 years.) He directed as many as 60 novices and 70 scholastics each year. He had a marked influence on quite a few young Brothers in the community. In 1961 he returned to teaching at Gilmour Academy and Hoban. In 1964, he became the director of the new school (Bishop David) in Louisville. In 1967 he went to California to teach for a year at Sherman Oaks, and for 7 years at Hayward. Dominic was instrumental in improving the spiritual and intellectual welfare of those in his charge. He took pride in overseeing changes in the physical plant of the institutions. He was truly an influential leader in community administration.

*I have made you a witness to the peoples, a leader  
and a master.* **-- Isaiah 55:4**

*Leadership is based on a spiritual quality; the power  
to inspire others to follow.* **-- Vince Lombardi**