

Legacy Project

August 21st

Brother Leo Walter Kowalski, C.S.C.

born: 4 July 1920

died: 21 August 2007



Leo was born in Two Rivers, Wisconsin and attended public schools there. He worked with the U.S. Forest Service and was a machinist with a ship building company. In 1942 he joined the U.S. Air Force and served in the Pacific during World War II. In 1947, he joined Holy Cross going to Watertown and the novitiate, where he made first vows in 1949. He earned his bachelor's degree *magna cum laude* at St. Edward's University. He taught at Notre Dame High in Biloxi, then at Cathedral in Indianapolis. In 1955, he joined the faculty of Sacred Heart Military Academy in Watertown (which later moved to Rolling Prairie as Le Mans Academy). Leo served a total of 46 years in a variety of roles at the Academy: teacher, prefect, barber, maintenance man, community superior and director. Leo was a man of infinite patience and good humor. He enjoyed working with handicrafts. When the Academy closed in 2002, Leo moved to Columba Hall and later to Schubert Villa. His fun-loving, common sense approach to life provided an example for students, staff, and fellow Brothers.

Endure like the moon, that faithful witness in the sky.

-- Psalm 89:37

*Common sense is the knack of seeing things as they are,
and doing things as they ought to be done. -- Harriet Beecher Stowe*