

Legacy Project

November 9

Brother Wilbert (Clarence) Leveling, C.S.C.

born: 12 February 1917

died: 9 November 2020



Wilbert (Clarence) Leveling lived to the grand old age of 103. He was born in St. Paul, IA and attended St. James Elementary School in St. Paul, IA; and when the family moved, he graduated from St. Joseph's High School in Fort Madison, IA in 1935. Wilbert worked for the U.S. Post Office as a clerk and a mail carrier until 1939 and then followed his calling to the religious life joining the Congregation of Holy Cross as a Brother. He entered Sacred Heart Juniorate in Watertown, WI in June 1939 and began his religious training two months later at St. Joseph's Novitiate in Rolling Prairie, IN, where he pronounced his first vows in August 1940. He began his studies at the University of Notre Dame and earned his bachelor of arts degree at in 1944. With graduate studies at both Notre Dame and at Catholic University in Washington, D.C., he later earned a master of science degree in education in 1948. He began his teaching career in 1944 at Cathedral High School in Indianapolis and throughout his nearly 50 years of teaching, he taught in Albany, NY, South Bend, IN, Chicago and River Grove, IL. During several summers, he worked as a counselor with the Foreign Study League accompanying groups of students on European tours. A highlight of his life experiences was the thirteen summers he worked as an English-speaking tour guide at the Oratory of St. Joseph in Montreal. He also served the Midwest Province for several years as the archivist and still volunteered for several hours a week once he retired from the position. Wilbert loved riding his bike throughout the Notre Dame campus well into his 90s, and he was great collector of classical music CDs—some 2,000 of them. When he spoke about Bach, Beethoven, Brahms and the rest, he spoke with authority.

*And I will still be carrying you when you are old.
Your hair will turn gray, and I will still carry you.
I made you, and I will carry you to safety.*

--Isaiah 46:4

*Find a cause and knock yourself out for it.
It will enhance your brainpower, interest in life, and keep you alive longer*
--Alyse Laemmle