

Fahrig, Donald L., S.M.

*DONALD LEO FAHRIG WAS BORN ON GOOD FRIDAY IN 1926.....APRIL
2ND*

*ACCORDING TO RECORDS HE WAS BAPTIZED TWO DAYS LATER, APRIL
4TH,*

EASTER SUNDAY OF 1926.....

*PERHAPS THAT HELPS TO EXPLAIN DON'S LIFE LONG INTEREST IN AND
PRAYERFUL PONDERING OF THE PASCHAL MYSTERY*

*HIS MOTHER WAS MATILDA HOMAN FAHRIG AND HIS FATHER WAS
WILLIAM.....*

HE HAD FOUR OLDER SIBLINGS.....

RUTH AND WILLIAM WERE TWINS.....

RUTH DIED AT THE AGE OF 3 IN A FIRE.....

*ROBERT DIED IN THE US NAVY IN APRIL 1945 NEAR OKINAWA AS A
RESULT OF A KAMIKAZE RAID ON HIS SHIP, THE USS HAZELWOOD.....*

HE ALSO HAD A BROTHER WILLIAM AND A SISTER RITA.....

*WE ARE VERY FORTUNATE TO HAVE WITH US THE DAUGHTER OF RITA
HERE WITH US, RUTH SNIDER, WHO WAS NAMED AFTER DON'S OLDER
SISTER RUTH.....*

*DON'S EDUCATION WAS TRULY MARIANIST – LITERALLY FROM THE
CRADLE TO THE GRAVE.....*

*BEGINNING WITH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AT OUR LADY OF ROSARY IN
NORTH DAYTON WHICH WAS STAFFED BY MARIANISTS AT THAT POINT
TO*

CHAMINADE HIGH SCHOOL ALSO HERE IN DAYTON, GRADUATING IN

1944.....AND CONTINUING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON AFTER
SERVING TWO YEARS IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY IN WORLD WAR II
FROM JUNE OF 1944 TO MAY OF 1946.....

DURING THE WAR HE SERVED AS A FIREMAN FIRST CLASS IN THE
PACIFIC, PRIMARILY OUT OF THE LARGE US NAVAL BASE ON THE
MANUS

ISLAND IN THE ADMIRALTIES ISLANDS

AFTER GRADUATING FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON IN 1950 HE
JOINED THE MARIANIST, MAKING FIRST VOWS WITH THE SECOND CLASS
AT MARCY, N.Y. IN 1951 AND FINAL VOWS ON AUGUST 15, 1955 AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON..

IN 1954 HE GRADUATED FROM CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA WITH
A MASTERS IN EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION WITH A THESIS ON "THE
TRENDS IN OBJECTIVES OF HIGH SCHOOL ENGLISH FROM 1894 TO 1950"

HE TAUGHT SEVERAL SUBJECTS, PRIMARILY ENGLISH, AT SEVERAL
HIGH

SCHOOLS, INCLUDING CHAMINADE HIGH SCHOOL IN MINEOLA, NY,
MOELLER HIGH SCHOOL IN CINCINNATI, HACKETT HIGH SCHOOL IN
KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN, CHAMINADE COLLEGE IN TORONTO, CANADA,
AND NEARLY 30 YEARS AT PURCELL HIGH SCHOOL IN CINCINNATI
WHERE HE WAS ALSO THE LIBRARIAN FOR SEVERAL YEARS. HE WAS
PRINCIPAL OF COVINGTON CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL AS WELL AS
DIRECTOR OF THE COMMUNITY FROM 1959 TO 1963.

HE SERVED AT THE MARIAN LIBRARY HERE IN DAYTON FROM 1982 TO

1989.....

HE WAS WELL KNOWN FOR HIS ABILITY DECORATE AND BEAUTIFY A SPACE BOTH IN A SCHOOL AND IN COMMUNITY....

TO PICK JUST ONE OF THE MANY COLORFUL NOTES AND CARDS HE RECEIVED FROM STUDENTS AT PURCELL MARIAN WHEN HE LEFT, WHICH WERE IN HIS FILES:

*BRO. DON,
THANK YOU FOR PLANTING FLOWERS AROUND THE SCHOOL. IT MAKES OUR SCHOOL A LOT BETTER...AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR DECORATIONS. I HOPE YOU HAVE A GREAT TIME AT UD. WE ALL MISS YOU. COME BACK TO VISIT. YOUR FRIEND, JOHNATHAN*

BECAUSE OF ILLNESS DON CAME TO MERCY SIENA IN 2007.....

HIS INCREASED CONFUSION HAD TO BE DIFFICULT FOR HIM....

A FEW MONTHS AGO HE SAID TO ME: "I'M GETTING OLDER FASTER THAN I THOUGHT". HE NEVER COMPLAINED THOUGH....

IN FACT WHEN HE WAS IN THE HOSPITAL TWO WEEKS AGO....IN THE MIDST OF HIS SUFFERING AFTER HIS STROKE HE SAID TO ME IN A VERY LUCID MOMENT: "THANKS FOR BEING DIRECTOR.....I WAS DIRECTOR MYSELF....." AND LATER ON HE SAID ONE DAY, "TOMORROW IS MY RESSURECTION". HE LIVED AND DIED THE PASHCAL MYSTERY.

THANK YOU TO HOSPICE OF DAYTON. AND THANKS TO THOSE WHO VISITED DON THERE AND AT MIAMI VALLEY HOSPITAL.....

THANKS FOR ALL THE CARE AND SUPPORT FROM THOSE AT MERCY SIENA.....

*THANKS TO OUR MARIANIST STAFF, INCLUDING KEN SOMMER, JUDY
MOEHL AND KIM EVANS.*

MAY HE REST IN PEACE