



13 November 2007

Dear Brothers and friends gathered for the funeral of our Brother, Martin McMurtrey,

On behalf of the Provincial Council of the Marianist Province of the United States and the brothers of the Province whom we serve, we offer to you our deepest condolences at the death of our Brother Martin McMurtrey. We are grateful to Father Richard Wosman, a member of our Provincial Chapter, who is representing the Council at the funeral.

It would be easy to say that Brother McMurtrey, or as he was known to generations of students as Brother Mac, was a teacher. He was an educator dedicated to changing lives and making a difference. During his years of service at Central Catholic, Brother Mac became more interested in serving the poor and making the gift of Catholic education a possibility. Even when he retired from Central Catholic, his heart continued to be there and serve there. He continued to raise money for the scholarship fund. It is appropriate that the obituary for Brother Mac asked that contributions be made to the scholarship fund. He would have it no other way.

Many of us remember Brother Mac's late afternoon walks in the courtyard as the band, athletic teams and Chaminade Guard were practicing. He carried his walking stick and always wore the most interesting color of shorts. A part of the history of Central Catholic has died yet we know that his legacy and heart will continue to live at Central Catholic.

I was hesitant to say yes to writing this note. Would the note be a reflection on whether I ever learned the grammar lesson that Brother Mac taught? Did I use the correct introduction? Sorry Brother Mac, you'll have to make a correction on this document as well. Thanks for being a teacher and a brother. Thanks for being a role model and an advocate for Catholic education. Thanks Mac! I am firmly convinced that Mac is in heaven editing a newspaper or correcting something, yet we know that while he is doing this he is quietly singing "With loyal hearts..."

The Marianists will continue to remember Brother Mac in prayer. Our communities will gather to remember his life and memory. Thank you for your presence and prayers.

With respect and many prayers,

On behalf of the Marianist Province of the United States