

Obituary for Gerard J.E. Sullivan
(submitted by Virginia Sullivan, wife, of 6120 Netherwood Dr.
Charlotte, NC 28210 704-554-7914)

Gerard (Jerry) Sullivan, PhD, aged 98, died on June 4 in Greensboro, surrounded by his loving family. He was a native of Baltimore, MD, born on July 30, 1911. Orphaned at age three, he was raised by his German-American aunts and uncles who surrounded him with faith and a love for learning. He joined the Marianist order at age 17, eventually earning several degrees; B.A from the University of Dayton, masters in Greek from Catholic University, PhD in Classics from the University of Cincinnati. During his religious journey, he lived in Iowa, Rome (Italy), and Lebanon, but for the most part, taught foreign languages at the University of Dayton. He also developed language studies in Russian for television and wrote a textbook for high school Latin. He was one of the first Americans to visit Russia after the relaxation of relations with the U.S.

His work with foreign languages continued after he separated from the Order in his early 60s. He married Virginia in 1973, gaining two children and a large, bustling extended family. Translating scientific documents from more than ten languages, he worked until age 85.

Musical talents were his avocation. Church choirs, Opera Carolina, and Charlotte Oratorio were beneficiaries of his voice and conducting abilities. His sacred compositions continue to be sung in the Order.

He leaves behind Virginia, his wife; James and Joanie Massman, son and daughter-in-law, Barbara Bartholomew, daughter; Jessica Kitchin, Henry, William, and Anna Bartholomew; grandchildren; Ashley and Destiny Hall, and Dylan Kitchin great-grandchildren (all in the Charlotte area). As well, there are seven in-laws, numerous nieces and nephews, and great-nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at Myers Park Baptist Church at 1:00 on Saturday, June 19. A reception will follow at the church.

In lieu of flowers, memorials in Jerry's name may be made to: Common Bond (organization of former Marianists) at P.O. Box 284, Shoreham, NY 11786, the Sunshine Fund of MPBC at 1900 Queens Rd., Charlotte, NC 28207, or The Urban Ministry Center at 935 No. College St. Charlotte, NC 28206.