Death Notice No. 12 (To all Unit Administrations):

The Province of the United States of America, recommends to our fraternal prayers our dear brother, JOSEPH SCHEIBLE of the Mercy Siena Marianist Community (Dayton), who died in the service of the Blessed Virgin Mary on July 11, 2012 in Dayton, Ohio, USA, at the age of 82 with 63 years of religious profession.

Whether he was in Asia, Australia or North America, through the Boy Scouts and in his calling as a Catholic educator, Bro. Joe cared for God’s children, including many who had difficult starts in life.

Joseph Anthony Scheible was born to Frank and Josephine (Widman) Scheible on July 10, 1930, in Cleveland, Ohio. He had one brother. Joe met the Marianists at Cathedral Latin School in Cleveland and decided he wanted to join the order. After a year at the postulate, Joe entered the Marianist novitiate in Beacon, New York, in 1947. Bro. Joe professed first vows on August 22, 1948.


In 1956, Bro. Joe volunteered to teach at St. Joseph College in Yokohama, Japan, where he would serve for eight years. He taught high school courses before moving on to eighth, seventh and fifth grade classes. “My students told me, ‘We were promoted, but you were demoted,’” Bro. Joe joked. He said many of the students who attended the school became Catholic in spirit and some were baptized. “Serving as a missionary in Japan was my most rewarding experience in the Society of Mary,” Bro. Joe said.

When Bro. Joe’s mother was diagnosed with cancer in the mid-1960s, he returned to Cleveland to be near her and served at his alma mater, Cathedral Latin. After the death of his mother, Bro. Joe spent two years teaching at St. Paul’s College in Altona North, Australia, before returning to Yokohama to serve at St. Joseph’s, where he would stay until 1997.

While in Japan, Bro. Joe became involved with the Boy Scouts and served as Cubmaster and then Scoutmaster of the school’s International Boy Scout troop. “One of the Scouting principles is duty to God,” Bro. Joe said. “I figure it’s good apostolic work.” In a letter to a friend, Bro. Joe once wrote that he saw Boy Scouts “grow into responsible young men who think of others and are loyal to their
families and country.” Bro. Joe was the longest tenured leader in the history of the International Boy Scouts, serving in a leadership position for over 30 years.

Bro. Joe returned to Cleveland in 1997 and served at Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School. He remained involved with St. Aloysius Parish’s Scout program and in 2010 was awarded the Boy Scout Silver Beaver award for distinguished service to youth. The Silver Beaver is the highest award an adult can receive from a local Boy Scout Council. He also received the Whitney M. Young award for his work with Boy Scouts in disadvantaged areas.

“He was sensitive to the different needs and backgrounds of each student and Scout,” Bro. David Murphy said.

Bro. Stanley Zubek lived in community in Cleveland with Bro. Joe and said he marveled at his dedication to the Boy Scout troops at St. Aloysius. “One year, he had a troop of only five boys,” Bro. Stan said. “But that didn’t change anything. He gave everything he had to make sure they had a good Scouting experience.”

Bro. Joe was known as an avid reader and bicyclist, according to Bro. Jack Dempsey, who lived with Bro. Joe in Cleveland. “He was a faithful man of prayer,” Bro. Jack said. “He took pride in completing the small, unheralded tasks of community life, like taking out the garbage. He was dependable.”

While at Villa Angela-St. Joseph, Bro. Joe tutored students who attended the school through the Marianist Urban Students Program (MUSP). The program helps high-potential but at-risk students graduate from high school.

“He was so patient and kind with the students he tutored,” said former MUSP Director Sr. Martha Mooney. “I can think of at least three students who would not have graduated without his help. They could always count on Bro. Joe.”

“During all these years, I worked with many Marianists and made many friends,” Bro. Joe wrote in 1998, “and tried to do what the Lord wanted of me.”

May he rest in peace.