



BRO. PAUL JABLINSKI

60 years of profession

I was born and raised in Dayton, Ohio, and received my vocation at St. Adalbert's elementary and Chaminade High School. Bro. John Blank also was instrumental in my Marianist vocation. I finished a year of college in art before entering the novitiate at Marcy, New York, where I professed my first vows on Sept. 8, 1956, and my final vows on Aug.15, 1960.

Three places are prominent in my mind. The first is my assignment at St. Joseph International School in Japan where I not only enjoyed teaching, but also enjoyed the international flavor of the community. It was a blessing to invite the Japanese Marianist brothers and sisters for Mass, dinner and a day of fun during the holiday season. I took an art history course from Sophia University in Tokyo and, on Saturdays, I took a course in ikebana, Japanese flower arrangement. Those years in Japan played a great part in my life to this very day. My first assignment in Japan ended when I received word that my father was dying.

My second assignment in Japan started several years later. After earning a master's degree in school counseling from University of Dayton, and not having a school in which to work, I returned to Japan. After working in counseling for several years, I was asked to create and teach an elementary ESL (English as a second language) program, which consisted of reading, writing, spelling, vocabulary, listening and speaking with instructions, tapes and tests. This project took a little over a year to construct. My class of 12 —each with a minimum IQ of 120 — excelled and, after a year of school, each made the honor roll in English the following years. I was blessed with another accomplishment.

My final remembrance was an opportunity to study ESL in Hawaii and, upon graduation, I would have a position to teach ESL at University of Dayton. When I returned to Dayton, I discovered that I had prostate cancer, and my treatment began immediately. After that, the 9/11 disaster hit the U.S., and the ESL program was put on hold.

Today, I am living in a half-cottage with Bro. Ed Zamierowski as part of the support community for our brothers at Sienna Woods.