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Death Notice No. 2 (To all Unit Administrations):



The Province of the United States of America recommends to our fraternal prayers our dear brother, **FRANCIS SMITH**, of the Mercy Siena Village Community (Dayton), who died in the service of the Blessed Virgin Mary on January 8, 2014 in Cleveland, Ohio, USA, at the age of 69 with 50 years of religious profession.

Bro. Frank was a teacher and pastoral minister who will be remembered for his faith in confronting health issues later in his life.

Francis Joseph Smith was born on December 23, 1944, in Cleveland, Ohio. He was one of three sons and two daughters in the family of Francis and Anna (Trainor) Smith.

He attended Cathedral Latin in his hometown. In 1960, he entered the postulate at Marianist Preparatory School in Beacon, New York. He professed his first vows on February 11, 1963, at the novitiate in Marcy, New York.

Bro. Frank earned a bachelor's degree in education at the University of Dayton in 1966, and taught the following year at Covington Catholic High School in Covington, Kentucky. He professed his perpetual vows on August 13, 1967, at Mount Saint John in Dayton.

From 1967 through 1975, Bro. Frank taught chemistry and religion at Purcell High School (now Purcell Marian High School) in Cincinnati, Ohio. He also served as moderator of student council and the sodality.

During the following two years, Bro. Frank served as a consultant to the board of education in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, coordinating drug abuse education and related teacher training for the area's Catholic and public schools.

Bro. Frank returned to Cleveland, and from 1976 through 1982, he taught religion at St. Joseph High School (now Villa Angela – St. Joseph High School).

In the following years, Bro. Frank's ministry turned from education to pastoral positions. He served in parishes in Albion and Kalamazoo, Michigan, until the early 1990s.

In 1994, Bro. Frank requested a period away from the Society of Mary. He was welcomed back into the Marianist community in late 1997.

In the late 1990s, Bro. Frank was a computer lab manager for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, while also assisting with computer education and maintenance at Dayton Catholic Elementary School.

From 2000 to 2002, he served at the Christian Family Center in Topsail, North Carolina. After this time, health problems, including a bout with cancer, led Bro. Frank to leave full-time ministry. In his later years, he lived in Dayton at the Mercy Siena Community, a health care facility.

“Bro. Frank was always positive and usually smiling. That, along with his long white beard and love for children made him an excellent Santa Claus, which he did annually at Mercy Siena and in the Dayton area,” Fr. Tom Schroer said. “He was an excellent cook, loved plants and was knowledgeable when it came to computers. He was always generous and willing to share his expertise with others, including his brothers at Mercy Siena.”

May he rest in peace.