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**Death Notice No. 10 (To all Unit Administrations):**



The Province of the United States of America recommends to our fraternal prayers our dear brother, **JOSEPH GRIESHABER**, of the Marianist Residence Community, San Antonio, Texas, who died in the service of the Blessed Virgin Mary on March 24, 2015 in San Antonio, Texas, USA, at the age of 76 with 58 years of religious profession.

Bro. Joe was a high school teacher and principal who also served many years as a community director and as a member of the Provincial Chapters of both the former St. Louis Province and the Province of the United States.

Joseph Andrew Grieshaber was born August 15, 1938, in St. Louis, Missouri. He and two sisters, Mary and Ann, were the children of Mary (Obermark) and Andrew Grieshaber. Bro. Joe attended St. John the Baptist grade school and St. Mary's High School. Impressed by the Marianists at St. Mary's, Bro. Joe entered the postulate at Maryhurst in Kirkwood, Missouri, shortly after his 15<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Bro. Joe entered the novitiate at Galesville, Wisconsin, in 1955, and professed first vows there a year later, on September 8, 1956. He earned a bachelor's degree in English from St. Mary's University in San Antonio, Texas, in 1959.

Bro. Joe began his teaching career in 1959 with a one-year term at St. Michael Central High School in Chicago, Illinois. He taught at his alma mater, St. Mary's High, for the following two years. He professed perpetual vows on August 22, 1961, at our Lady of the Pillar Church in St. Louis.

Over the next several years, Bro. Joe taught at Chaminade College Preparatory in St. Louis (1962 – 1963); Assumption High School in East St. Louis, Illinois (1964 – 1969); and St. Joseph High in Victoria, Texas (1969 – 1970). Later in 1970, Bro. Joe returned to St. Michael Central in Chicago for five years, where he taught, served as principal and was the director of the Marianist community.

By attending summer classes, Bro. Joe received a master's degree in educational administration from the University of Notre Dame in 1975. For the following six years, Bro. Joe was principal at St. Thomas More High School in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Throughout his high school teaching career, in addition to teaching English, religion and mathematics, Bro. Joe often served as the English department chairman. He coached football and was the moderator of the sodality, speech team, student council and yearbook as these needs presented themselves.

Even if he believed he wasn't well suited to a particular ministry, Bro. Joe accepted his assignments willingly. "When called to a task, he would do it without complaining, and he would do it well," said Bro. Jerry Bommer. "He was always generous, friendly and ready for a laugh."

Bro. Joe spent 1981 and 1982 as a student at the University of San Francisco in California, and on sabbatical at Sangre de Cristo in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

In the fall of 1982, Bro. Joe returned to St. Louis to be principal at St. John Vianney High, where he remained for four years. He then went to Omaha, Nebraska, where he taught and was interim president at Daniel Gross Catholic High. In 1992, he was called to serve as principal at Central Catholic High in San Antonio. He returned again to St. Louis in 1995 to teach at Chaminade College Preparatory.

Now well into his fourth decade of ministry, Bro. Joe began a new role as director of the Marianist Residence, a large healthcare and retirement community in San Antonio. He gave his skill and compassion to this ministry from 1997 - 2007.

“You have served with amazing dedication and personal care for each of the members of your community. Your community bridges a wide diversity of viewpoints on religious life and most other issues. You have navigated these waters charitably and well,” wrote then-Provincial Bro. Stephen Glodek in a 2006 letter to Bro. Joe.

During the 1990s and early 2000s, in addition to his other responsibilities, Bro. Joe was selected to the Provincial Chapter, the Interprovincial Formation Governing Board and the General (international) Chapter.

In 2007, Bro. Joe was called to be assistant treasurer at Marianist Provincial headquarters in St. Louis. He remained in that role for five years. “Bro. Joe was very funny, with a dry sense of humor,” said longtime Province employee Donna Tucker. “He always enjoyed hearing stories about our families – he was genuinely interested and truly caring.”

At age 74, Bro Joe returned to the Marianist Residence in San Antonio, a community he loved. Although he struggled with complications from diabetes, he will be remembered for his sharp wit and big heart.

“Joe was able to help me laugh at myself and at the situations of life,” said Bro. Ed Brink. “He cared about his brothers and the Society of Mary, and he demonstrated that care in word and in action.”

May he rest in peace.