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Death Notice No. 15 (To all Unit Administrations):



The Province of the United States of America recommends to our fraternal prayers our dear brother, **JOHN ROHE**, of the Marianist Residence Community, San Antonio, Texas, USA, who died in the service of the Blessed Virgin Mary on June 13, 2018 in San Antonio, Texas, USA, at the age of 87 with 68 years of religious profession.

Brother John was a gifted teacher. He inspired countless students with his love of science and his love of Mary. During his time in education, he taught religion, chemistry and math. He also moderated Sodality, cheerleaders, science clubs and student council.

John Edward Rohe was born in St. Louis, Missouri, on March 21, 1931. He was the eldest of five children (three boys and two girls) in the family of Edward and Mildred (nee Kittel) Rohe. After attending Blessed Sacrament grammar school in St. Louis, Bro. John entered McBride High School, St. Louis, in 1945. There, he was recruited by Bro. Henry Ringkamp and entered the Postulate at Maryhurst in Kirkwood, Missouri, after his sophomore year.

He entered Marynook Novitiate in Galesville, Wisconsin, in the autumn of 1948 and made his first profession on August 15, 1949. He remained at Marynook as a scholastic working brother for one year before going to the scholasticate at Maryhurst and St. Mary's University in San Antonio, Texas. He graduated in 1953 with a bachelor's degree in chemistry and a minor in mathematics. Later, in 1961, he earned his master's degree in chemistry from the University of Notre Dame, Indiana.

Bro. John began his teaching career at Don Bosco High School in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. On July 16, 1955, he professed his perpetual vows. In 1957, Bro. John was sent even farther north to Provencher Collegiate Institute in St. Boniface, Manitoba, Canada, where he taught until 1962. While there, he served as a president of the Manitoba Science Teachers Association. He then spent one year at the Second Novitiate at Marycliff in Glencoe, Missouri, before being assigned to teach at Chaminade College Preparatory in St. Louis, Missouri. From 1972 to 1978, he served at Nolan Catholic High School in Fort Worth, Texas. He then spent one year at Central Catholic High School in San Antonio, Texas, before moving on to Junipero Serra High School in sunny Los Angeles, California, for a year.

From 1980 to 1986, he was stationed at Chaminade College in Honolulu, Hawaii. During that time, he gave courses to military personnel stationed on Johnson Island, about eight hundred miles southwest of Hawaii. He also worked with "boat people" to help improve their English language skills. In 1986, he left Hawaii for Texas. He was first involved in formation at the San Antonio scholasticate. Then, in 1992, he was assigned to Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Helotes, Texas. In 2006, Bro John took a sabbatical at the Oblate Renewal Center in San Antonio, Texas, before retiring at the Marianist Residence at St. Mary's University in San Antonio.

Bro. John had been plagued by many health problems for most of his religious life, but he managed to work and continue his commitment to education. He secured National Science Foundation grants which allowed him to attend summer classes at colleges in Ohio, Michigan and Maine. He was a co-author of *Patterns and Processes of Science*, a science text book, and he published a number of other scientific articles.

Deacon Larry Edwards, who was a good friend, recalled, “Brother John was one of the most intelligent and witty men I know. I could sit with him and listen, talk, laugh, pray, and always come away with a new perspective on life. His ability to engage and discuss life with all persons of every age was a true gift from God. The world is definitely a better place because of the life God gave him on this earth. While we are very sad at his passing, we are overjoyed at his finally being with our Lord and Savior. May God bring him into His loving hands and may he rest in peace.”

When requesting permission to take first vows, Bro. John had written, “Spring is the time for falling in love. Now, spring is here and, being human, I, too, have fallen in love. My love is not a love that changes with the season. It is the solid and steady love of a son for his Mother, the Blessed Virgin Mary. This letter is the result of that love.”

We give thanks to God for his life, for his dedication to the education of young Catholics, and for his solid and steady love for Mary as he joins her in the joyous presence of Our Risen Lord in heaven.

May he rest in peace.