



Brother Frank Damm, SM

Celebrating 70 years of Profession

I was born in 1936 in Detroit, MI, where I attended Gesu Catholic School and Central Catholic High School before serving five years in the U.S. Navy. I professed my First Vows on September 8, 1956, in Marcy, NY, and earned a BS in physics from the University of Dayton, an MS in astronomy, and a PhD in astrophysics, both from Ohio State University.

God has been very good to me in religious life as a Marianist Brother. There was never a community that I did not enjoy, and there have always been good brothers to support me. I enjoyed all of my teaching experiences—educating students in science, physics, and astronomy at both the high school and college level. My teaching career began in 1959, serving five years at Cathedral Latin School in Cleveland, OH, followed by six years at Ohio Wesleyan University in Delaware, OH, and then 11 years as a senior lecturer at Kenyatta University in Nairobi, Kenya.

Serving overseas in Africa was an important experience for me; getting to know the various African brothers and their cultures was very rewarding. In 1986, I left education to serve six years as Regional Superior of Eastern Africa, with another four years in the Regional Office of Temporalities. My African service was one of many opportunities that I may not have had available to me had I not been a Marianist—opportunities that also included getting my pilot's license and being able to fly private planes for various Marianist excursions.

After 21 years in Africa, my final ministerial experience brought me back to the Western Hemisphere with administrative service at Chaminade University of Honolulu from 1997 until 2020. Like Africa, I very much enjoyed my time immersed in the Hawaiian culture before retiring to the Marianist Care Center in Cupertino, CA.