

CURIA GENERALIZIA MARIANISTI
Via Latina 22 - 00179 Roma, Italia
Tel. (39-06) 704 75 892 - Fax (39-06) 700 0406
E-mail: gensecsm@smcuria.it

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Death Notice No. 30 (To all Unit Administrations):



The Province of the United States of America recommends to our fraternal prayers our dear brother, **PATRICK McMAHON**, of the Marianist Community of Cupertino, CA, USA, who died in the service of the Blessed Virgin Mary on November 1, 2014 in Cupertino, CA, USA, at the age of 79 with 60 years of religious profession.

Bro. Patrick was a longtime high school math teacher who ministered mostly in his home state of California. Bro. Pat took a great interest in students with learning disabilities.

Patrick John McMahan was born February 13, 1935, in San Francisco. He was the only child of Frank and Emma (Buergi) McMahan. Bro. Pat attended St. Joseph grade school, where he first encountered a Marianist religious. “My third grade teacher, Bro. Francis Tribull, inspired me to consider Marianist religious life,” Bro. Pat wrote in a jubilee remembrance. “Through his kindness, he encouraged his students to see life as good. He became a living example for me.”

Bro. Pat attended Archbishop Riordan High School in San Francisco through the 10th grade, when his family moved to Sacramento, where he completed high school at Christian Brothers High School. He entered the Chaminade Novitiate in Santa Cruz in 1953 and professed first vows there on August 15, 1954. He professed perpetual vows in San Francisco on August 23, 1958. Bro. Pat earned a bachelor’s degree in history, with a minor in mathematics, from St. Mary’s College in Morega, California, in 1960.

He began his teaching career in Hawai’i, serving first at Saint Louis School in Honolulu and then at St. Anthony in Wailuku. In 1962, he returned to California, where he taught at Junipero Serra High School in Gardena.

In 1963, Bro. Pat answered a call to serve in Japan. He taught math and religion at St. Joseph College (later St. Joseph International School) in Yokohama through 1970, while also serving as business manager of the school and the Marianist community there. He later wrote that “getting to live in and experience the Japanese culture was my biggest joy during those years.”

When he returned to the United States, Bro. Pat taught at Chaminade College Preparatory in Chatsworth, California, and served in a staff position at the Marianist Pacific Province offices.

For a decade beginning in 1973, Bro. Pat taught at Archbishop Riordan High School in San Francisco. After a year spent in renewal, he returned to teaching in 1984, first at Serra, then at Archbishop Mitty High School in San Jose from 1985 – 1989.

Fr. Tom French, who lived in community with Bro. Pat for 15 years, said he was hospitality personified. “Whoever came to the community, he would make them feel welcome,” said Fr. Tom.

“In our community, Bro. Pat was the spark, the one who could make people laugh. He was great to live with.”

Bro. Tom Redmond also admired Bro. Pat’s hospitality. “He loved to take visitors on tours of the area. His most famous tour was ‘The Three-Bridge-Tour,’ a 90-minute drive crossing three main bridges in the San Francisco Bay Area.”

Bro. Tom described Bro. Pat as a true community man. “He was faithful to his brothers through community prayer, faithful to his brothers in helping with their needs, and always present in the community. “

From 1990 – 1992, Bro. Pat served on staff at the Marianist Retreat Center in Cupertino. He then returned to teaching math at Archbishop Riordan. Although he retired from full-time teaching in 2000, he remained a tutor at Riordan through 2008, patiently helping special-needs students.

In 2005, Archbishop Riordan awarded him the Blessed Chaminade Award, honored for his dedication in more than 50 years with the Society of Mary and 23 years of teaching and service to Riordan.

An *ALIVE* magazine story from 2005 quotes Patrick Karajah, then a junior at Archbishop Riordan: “Bro. Pat shows me how to do my algebra problems and he goes over them step-by-step,” said Patrick. “He’s a good example of what it means to help others.”

In 2008, Bro. Patrick retired to the Marianist Community at Cupertino.

“When I was principal at Riordan, Bro. Pat McMahon was one of the best teachers on staff,” said Bro. John Haster. “He took a great interest in students with learning disabilities. He was idolized by the students he helped.”

May he rest in peace.