

Fr. Cusick

(continued from page 1)

Barlow was at the last Mass Fr. Cusick said at Gate of Heaven. He was obviously very sick, but he gave the Mass because he felt he should be with his people. When Barlow visited Fr. Cusick in Scranton, he always asked how his parishioners were doing. "We loved him," Barlow said.

An avid golfer, Fr. Cusick took trips to Florida for the sport most years, and played locally whenever he could. "You knew when he came in whistling he wouldn't be around long," said Fran Wallo, church secretary for all of Fr. Cusick's years at Gate of Heaven. "He'd be headed for the golf course." And even when he was ill, he called to make sure his Notre Dame tickets had come in.

Wallo recalled her boss as a humble man, and a very fair one, who was quick to pick up mistakes in her work that she had missed despite several proofreadings. "It's not going to be the same around there without him," she said.

Fr. David Cappelloni, associate pastor, lived with Fr. Cusick for four years at the parish rectory on Machell Ave. "I found him easy to live with and to work with," he said, calling Fr. Cusick a generous and compassionate man who loved the church and school. "He worked very hard to keep the school open and to improve it," Cappelloni said. The two saw each other weekly while Fr. Cusick was ill, and spoke on the phone at least once more each week. "He treated me as an equal, but he was the boss," Cappelloni said.

Bruce Boyle has been a member of the parish since its beginning, and participates in the Knights of Columbus chapter that Fr. Cusick helped form. He recalled his pastor as an enthusiastic fan of Notre Dame football who visited South Bend for games twice a year. "Notre Dame football was a big part of him," Boyle said, pointing out that many of his fellow priests favored Penn State, which led to good-natured exchanges, even from the pulpit. A signed autograph from coach Lou Holtz graced Fr. Cusick's wall.

"He was down-to-earth, very caring," Boyle said, and he knew from his own experience. Boyle's brother died in an auto accident 11 years ago. At the time he lived in Reading, but when Boyle asked that he be buried here, Fr. Cusick never hesitated. Fr. Cusick also comforted the Boyles when a child died shortly after birth, and always asked about his mother, who suffers from Alzheimer's disease.

Few in the parish knew that Fr. Cusick was a decorated Navy veteran of WWII who returned to duty with the Marines in Vietnam. "He wasn't a braggart, that's for sure," said Sunny Cesarini.

"He had the ability to make you feel better."
Peg Canfield

But he brought leadership skills and determination to Dallas with him. "I think he protected Gate of Heaven," she said. "He kept the parish safe."

Some people felt his military background produced Fr. Cusick's stern demeanor. "He came across rough sometimes, I think because he was in the service," said Barbara Strazdus, who knew Fr. Cusick during all his 19 years at Gate of Heaven. "But he was very gentle and compassionate. He didn't judge. He understood the human aspect." She felt he was a father figure to the parish "in every sense of the word. He could correct us in a stern way and still love us."

"He could correct us in a stern way and still love us."

Barbara Strazdus

But he showed his softer side when, only a month after Fr. Cusick arrived at the church 19 years ago, both Barbara and her husband, Raymond, lost parents. When he visited their house, "he was absolutely wonderful. There was a strength about him," she said. "He seemed to know the right thing to say."

A champion of education, Fr. Cusick actually saved Gate of Heaven School from closing, said Bob Paley. When asbestos was discovered in the building 16 years ago, it seemed the \$450,000 expense to clean it up outstripped the parish's ability to pay for it. Fr. Cusick called a public meeting in the gym, and made an impassioned plea to the congregation and parents, but in the end left it up to them to take on the project. They did, and a loan to pay for the cleanup was paid off five years ago. "If it wasn't for him, the school would be closed today," Paley said.

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Bob Paley

"He was a priestly man," Paley said, always interested in others' welfare. "He touched a lot of lives." Once the school's future was secure, Fr. Cusick prevailed on the Bishop for funding to add a middle level building. And he loved the children, who lost a "grandfather" to them all Paley said.

Jim Barlow is a Eucharistic Minister at Gate of Heaven. His memories of Fr. Cusick will be fond. "He was what I'd call a Good Shepherd," Barlow said. A direct man, Fr. Cusick was a good leader for the parish, Barlow feels. "You didn't have any trouble understanding how he felt about his position and his religion," Barlow said. "I felt he always put God first, then his family — which included his parishioners — and then his country."

OBITUARIES

REV. WILLIAM CUSICK

The Rev. William F. Cusick, pastor of Gate of Heaven Church, Dallas, died May 1, 1997, at Mercy Hospital, Scranton.

Born in Scranton, he was the son of the late Patrick J. and Mary Kane Higgins Cusick.

He attended St. Ann's Monastery Schools, Scranton and graduated from the University of Scranton with a degree in English and social studies.

He completed his theological studies at Mount St. Mary's Seminary.

He was ordained to the priesthood by the Most Rev. Jerome D. Hannon in 1955.

He served as assistant pastor at St. Mary of the Mount, Mount Pocono, and assistant pastor at St. Rose, Carbondale. While serving in the Poconos, he taught at Pocono Central Catholic High School.

He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II in the Pacific Theater.

He also served as a chaplain in the U.S. Naval Reserve, attaining the rank of lieutenant junior grade.

He later returned to active duty in the U.S. Navy serving as a Catholic Chaplain at the Naval Station in Argentina, Newfoundland.

He also served with the U.S. Marine Corps in Vietnam and at Parris Island, S.C.

He completed advanced training at the Naval Chaplain School, Newport, R.I., and served as Catholic chaplain aboard the USS Midway, completing two tours in Vietnam. He was then assigned to the Recruit Training Center, Great Lakes, IL, where he served until retirement.

He was awarded the Bronze Star with combat "V" for valor, the Navy Commendation Medal, the Combat Action Ribbon, Vietnam Campaign Ribbon, with four bronze stars, and the World War II Victory Medal.

Surviving are brothers, Joseph J. Higgins and Paul J. Cusick, Scranton; Jack P. Cusick, Buffalo, NY; sisters, Marian A. Naso and Anne M. Cusick, Scranton; nieces and nephews; grand-nieces and nephews.

Interment, Cathedral Cemetery, Scranton.

MARIAN SALLADA

Marian U. Sallada, of Newberry Estate, Dallas, died April 29, 1997 at the Heritage House, Wilkes-Barre, where she had been a guest for the past 18 months.

Born in Pottsville, she was the daughter of the late Owen L. and Fannie Doutrich Underwood.

She graduated from Pottsville High School and Hood College, Frederick, MD.

Before retiring she was a school teacher at Pottsville High School. She moved to the Wyoming Valley in 1945.

She was active in numerous civic and community affairs including the Nesbitt Memorial Hospital Auxiliary and the American Red Cross of Wyoming Valley.

She was a resident of the Back Mountain area most of her life.

She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church, Wilkes-Barre, and the Westmoreland Club.

She was preceded in death by her husband, John Frederick Sallada.

Surviving are a son, Jack Sallada, Milwaukee, WI; grandsons, John F. Sallada III and James U. Sallada, both of Milwaukee.

Interment Charles Baber Cemetery, Pottsville.

Memorial donations may be made to the Heritage House, 80 East Northampton St., Wilkes-Barre 18701, the First Presbyterian Church, 97 South Franklin Street, Wilkes-Barre 18701, or the donor's choice.

ANNA SABOL

Anna Sabol of Dallas, died May 3, 1997, at her home.

She was born in Swoyersville. Prior to her retirement, she was employed by Nesbitt Memorial Hospital, Kingston.

She was a member of St. Frances Cabrini Church, Carverton, Kingston Township.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Stephen.

Surviving are a son, Francis, Dallas; four grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; a sister, Susan Burges, New York.

Interment, Mount Olivet Cemetery, Carverton.

MARIE DEIGNAN

Marie T. Deignan, 89, of Maple Street, Dallas, died May 3, 1997, at the Meadows Nursing Center, Dallas.

Born in Paris, France, she was the daughter of the late Roger and Eugenie Milley Turpaud.

She graduated from Wyoming Seminary, Kingston.

Surviving are her children, Paul A. Smith, Monmouth Junction, NJ; Jeanne S. Jones, Beaufort, S.C.; Joan T. Pappas, Dallas; 10 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Private funeral services were held at the Richard H. Disque Funeral Home, 672 Memorial Hwy., Dallas.

THOMASINA LOMASCOLO

Thomasina Dougher Lomascolo, 72, of Wyoming St., Lee Park, died April 24, 1997, at home following a lengthy illness.

Born in Wilkes-Barre, she was the daughter of the late Leonard and Thomasina Dougher.

She graduated from Coughlin High School and was employed by Hess and Goldsmith and Heavely Shoes prior to her retirement.

She was a member of St. Aloysius Church, Wilkes-Barre and their Senior Citizens Association.

She is survived by her husband of 53 years, Alexander Lomascolo, Harveys Lake; a son, John Lomascolo, Waldorf, MD; daughters, Sharon Volingavage, Shickshinny Lake and Beckie Kerr, Dallas; brothers, William Dougher, Edison, NJ; and James Dougher, Nanticoke; sister, Patricia Shea, Dover, NH; 12 grandchildren; nieces and nephews.

RUTH BECKER

Ruth A. Becker, 77, of Harveys Lake and formerly of Shavertown, Kingston Township, died May 1, 1997, at home.

Born in Plains Township, she was the daughter of the late Anthony and Nora Duddy Lavelle.

She was a volunteer for the Meadows Nursing Home, Dallas.

She was a member of St. Therese's Church, Shavertown, for 22 years and a member of Our Lady of Victory Church, Harveys Lake, for the past four years.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Louis; brothers, Thomas, Joseph, Gerald, Earl and Anthony; sisters, Miriam and Tesse.

Surviving are a son, Louis, Elmwood Park, IL; daughters, Noreen Gladey, Shavertown; Kathleen Crain, Elizabeth Schler and Therese Gwilliam, all of Harveys Lake; nine grandchildren; a brother, Paul Lavelle, Plains.

Interment, Mount Olivet Cemetery, Carverton, Kingston Township.

ROBERT GARRIS

Robert F. Garriss, 78, of Camdenton, MO, died April 28, 1997, at the Lake of the Ozarks Hospital, Osage Beach, MO.

Born in Laceyville, he was the son of the late Frank B. and Prudence Robson Garriss.

He was a graduate of Kingston Township High School and had resided in southeastern Pennsylvania most of his life. He later resided in Santee, SC for several years.

He was an Army veteran of World War II. He was a member of the Masonic Fraternity and a Shriner at Omar Temple, Charleston, SC.

He was the owner of an insurance agency and also was an insurance agent for Keystone AAA.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Janet Garinger Garriss in 1988.

Surviving are his wife, the former Sharon Jasin; sons, Michael Garriss, Bloomington, MN; Roderick Garriss, Pinewood, SC; brother, Ralph, Dallas; 3 grandchildren; 4 stepchildren.

Graveside services were held in Idetown Cemetery, Lehman Township, with Rev. Michael A. Bealla pastor of the Dallas United Methodist Church officiating.

Arrangements were by Richard H. Disque Funeral Home, 672 Memorial Highway, Dallas.

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The Family of the late Albert C. Hardisky wish to extend our sincere thanks to the many friends and neighbors who offered comfort in our recent time of bereavement. The gifts of flowers, food, cards and memorial contributions in Al's name were deeply appreciated as were the visits, expressions of sympathy and numerous acts of kindness. We have been overwhelmed by the love and support shown.

We wish to also acknowledge our gratitude to the members of the Northmoreland Township Volunteer Fire Company and the Franklin and Northmoreland Township Ambulance Association.

May God bless.

Marlene Hardisky,
Eleanor & John Samanas, Joe & Ann Hardisky

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\$53 per credit hour *

Code	Course	Title	Time	Day
7675	ACC 111-S1	PRINCIPLES OF ACCOUNTING I	6:00-9:45	M
7676	ACC 112-S1	PRINCIPLES OF ACCOUNTING II	6:00-9:25	T
7703	ART 110-S1	ART APPRECIATION	6:00-9:25	W
7677	BUS 101-S1	INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS	6:00-9:25	W
7680	BUS 251-S1	HUMAN RESOURCE MGMT.	6:00-9:45	TH
7683	CHE 111-S1	FUNDAMENTALS OF CHEMISTRY	6:00-9:45	M
7685	ECO 151-S1	PRIN. OF ECONOMICS I (MAC)	6:00-9:25	T
7686	ENG 101-S1	ENGLISH COMPOSITION I	6:00-9:25	W
7687	ENG 102-S1	ENGLISH COMP./LITERATURE II	6:00-9:45	TH
7701	ENG 223-S1	AMERICAN LITERATURE I	6:00-9:25	T
7688	ENG 261-S1	TECHNICAL REPORT WRITING	6:00-9:45	M
7700	HCM 101-S1	INTRODUCTION TO HEALTH CARE	6:00-9:45	M
7704	MAT 105-S1	BASIC COLLEGE MATH	6:00-9:25	T
7690	MAT 107-S1	BASIC STATISTICS	6:00-9:25	W
7692	PHI 150-S1	INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY	6:00-9:25	W
7693	PHI 151-S1	INTRODUCTION TO ETHICS	6:00-9:45	TH
7694	PSY 103-S1	GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY	6:00-9:45	TH
7695	PSY 217-S1	DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY	6:00-9:25	T
7696	RET 101-S1	REAL ESTATE FUNDAMENTALS	6:00-9:25	W
7699	SPE 125-S1	FUNDAMENTALS OF SPEECH	6:00-9:45	M

*In addition to the tuition of \$53 per credit, there is a \$7 general service and technology fee per credit.

For additional information contact
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