

# Brothers

June 2011 *Brothers* 5

## Br. Frederick P. Raehsler, C.S.C.

Frederick Raehsler was born in Elsworth, Wisconsin, to Frederick and Florence Raehsler on September 8, 1934. As a child my family moved to St. Paul, Minnesota, where I attended St. John the Evangelist Grammar School in Little Canada, Minnesota, and then Cretin High School in St. Paul.



After two years of military service in the US Army Medical Corps in Nurnberg/Erlangen, Germany, I returned to St. Paul. I was introduced to the life of a Brother in high school where I was taught by the Brothers of St. John Baptist de la Salle (Christian Brothers). My introduction to the Holy Cross Brothers came while visiting Rancho San Antonio in Chatsworth, California, with a friend in 1956.

Four years later on June 14, 1960, I entered the Congregation of Holy Cross at Watertown,

Wisconsin. Following a couple of months at Watertown it was on to my novitiate year in Rolling Prairie, Indiana.

My education and ministry in Holy Cross would be in health-care. My nursing training began at the Alexian Brothers Hospital in Chicago, Illinois, from 1963–1966. Upon graduation I was appointed the Director of the Dujarie House Infirmary at Notre Dame, Indiana. After seven years at Dujarie House I moved into an area of Health Care known as Mid-level Health Practitioners the Physician Assistant (PA). I was trained as a PA at Indiana University and Purdue University (IUPUI) in Fort Wayne, Indiana, from 1973–1975.

I completed my undergraduate work at Indiana University in 1978 earning a Bachelor of Studies (BGS) and my graduate work at Indiana University earning a M.S.Ed. in Guidance and Counseling in 1981.

My ministry over the years has been in the Health Care Field, either as a nurse or

physician assistant. My PA work began here in South Bend with the Family Care Medical Practice for seven years. Upon earning my Master's Degree I moved on to King's College in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, to work in their Physician Assistant Program as both a teacher and administrator.

To satisfy a desire to work in rural health, I accepted a Physician Assistant position in Skagway, Alaska, for seven years. From July 1994 until 2000 I served the rural community of Blanchard, Michigan.

In 2000 I retired from Physician Assistant work but since have served as a nurse at Dujarie House, Notre Dame, St. Joseph Health Center, South Bend and Holy Cross College, Notre Dame. I am currently living at Maple Lane Apartments in South Bend and volunteer as a nurse at the Sister Maura Brannick, C.S.C. Health Center in downtown South Bend, serving the poor.