

Fr. Edward L. MURRAY 77 USA

* February 17, 1920 Ambridge PA

+ August 28, 1997 Pittsburgh PA

His mother, Catherine Cosgrove was born in 1879 in a house on Shingiss Street on the present site of Duquesne University's Rockwell Hall. People looking for omens would see in that a sign of her son Edward's future life and work at Duquesne. Be this as it may, his role there began in 1946 and ended in 1997.

He did his secondary studies at Central Catholic High School and then went to St. Vincent Abbey in Latrobe, PA for his senior seminary education. He earned a M.A. in philosophy and was ordained there on March 4, 1945 for the diocese of Pittsburgh. He served as assistant pastor at St. Francis Xavier on the Northside of the city for seven years, St. Paul, Butler, for six years and Sacred Heart, East End, for four years. During all these years, he also engaged in teaching: first at Duquesne as a lecturer in philosophy, and then at Catholic schools in the diocese.

Joining the Congregation in 1962, he made his vows on August 22, 1963 at Ridgefield, CT, and was then assigned to Duquesne University. He earned his M.A. in psychology in 1964 and his Ph.D. in 1968, while also lecturing in his field. A born teacher, he was highly esteemed by his students and appreciated by his colleagues, who in 1970 chose him as their department chairman. In 1975 he was named academic vice-president of the university. During the sick-leave of the president of the university, 1976-77, he served as acting president. From 1981 on he resumed his teaching full-time position in the psychology department until his retirement in 1994. On a part-time basis, however, he continued to lecture.

Among the many other functions he fulfilled we may name his membership of the provincial council, 1976-79, chairman of the Duquesne University Corporation, 1983-87, and co-founder of the Simon Silverman Phenomenological Center at Duquesne in 1978, for which Simon Silverman had donated \$100,000. This center is said to contain the largest and finest collection of phenomenological books and

manuscripts in the world. He also co-founded the Bene-Duc School of Music in Pittsburgh's Hill District in 1979.

He authored numerous articles for scholarly journals, contributed chapters to books and wrote several books himself. The latest of these came out in 1986 under the title *Imaginative Thinking and Human Existence*.

Endowed with a great sense of humor and forever smiling, he was an "enthusiastic, inspiring teacher who truly enjoyed sharing his appreciation of the thought of Heidegger and Ricoeur, and who never let faculty or the students forget the significance of human imagination," said his colleague Professor William F. Fischer, and "a friend, always ready to be of help, whether with a word of judicious advice or a letter of reference."

He suffered a stroke while visiting friends in California. Transported back to Pittsburgh, he died of a heart attack in St. Margaret's Hospital. Burial took place in his family plot at St. Mary Cemetery, Homestead, PA.