

Rev. W. Robert Graves, C.S.Sp. -

Rev. W. Robert Graves, C.S.Sp., a member of the Congregation of the Holy Spirit died February 4, 2004 of leukemia.

Fr. Graves was born on November 20, 1923 in Worcester MA. On July 16, 1944 he made his vows at Ridgefield CT and was ordained to the priesthood at Ferndale, Norwalk CT February 17, 1950.

Following his ordination his first assignment took him to Puerto Rico where he was destined to work for 42 years. He ministered in the missions of Arecibo, Barceloneta, El Coto, San Felipe, Toa Alta, Jayuya, Dorado and Juncos. He was Director Pontifical for Puerto Rican missionary works in Hato Rey while serving as Pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish, Juncos (1971-1986). August of 1992 he was assigned to the Diocese of Charlotte NC where he was appointed Chaplain for the Office of Hispanic Ministry and later worked with the Hispanic people in Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Monroe NC (1992-1996). His retirement years found him at the Spiritans retirement home in Sarasota Florida, where he continued to assist in replacement ministry until his death.

Fr. Graves was preceded in death by his parents, W. Raymond. and Helen Demers Graves and a sister, Mrs. Dorothy Lewis. He is survived by nephews Robert, James, and Richard Lewis all residing in Massachusetts.

There will be viewing Sunday, February 8, from 2:00 – 4:00 PM and 7:00 – 9:00 PM in the Chapel at Bethel Animation Center, 6230 Brush Run Road, Bethel Park, PA, where Mass of the Resurrection will take place Monday, February 9 at 10:30 AM. Burial will take place in St. Mary's Cemetery, O'Hara Twp. The family will conduct a Memorial Service at their local parish in the near future.

In memory of Father Graves donations may be made to the Spiritans, designated for retirement or for the education of future Holy Spirit Fathers, 6230 Brush Run Road, Bethel Park PA 15102.