

Celebrating the Life
Brother Donatus Vervoort, NDL

Born

August 18, 1931
Gemonde, The Netherlands

Passed Away

October 28, 2014
St. Albert, Alberta

Brother Donatus (Petrus Josephus Vervoort) was born in Gemonde, The Netherlands, on August 18, 1931. He grew up, became a teacher, the love of his life, spending his younger years in his home country. On September 8, 1949, he entered the Congregation of The Brothers of Our Lady of Lourdes. In August, 1960, he left The Netherlands for Canada, where he lived and worked for the rest of his life.

Many pages would be needed to list all the things he did in his life as teacher, student, counselor, choir director, parishioner, administrator, grower of veggies for the food bank, member of the Vervoort family, friend and fellow-brother. But, more importantly, he should be remembered for the person he was: serving others in numerous ways inside and outside the congregation of the brothers. It seemed that he never could say "No" to someone in need. It is in this way that he lived his life as a faithful follower of the Founder of the congregation: Father Glorieux, who lived his life serving people, especially those marginalized. Brother Donatus was a good human being with a big heart and a smile and that is how he should be remembered.

He passed away on Tuesday, October 28, 2014 in St. Albert, Alberta, Canada, close to the place he came to love as his home, Edmonton. He died peacefully after some difficult and painful final years, never complaining, always trying to cheer up others. May he now enjoy the House of the Father where there are many rooms for those who have shown love, care and friendship.