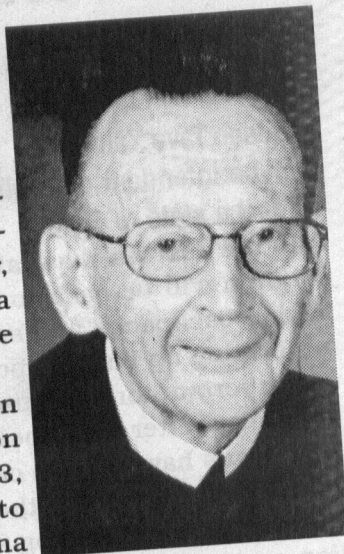


Br. Stephen Lauer, C.P.P.S.

Br. Stephen Lauer, C.P.P.S., died at 3:15 a.m. Sunday, August 28, 2005, at Community Hospital, Coldwater, Ohio, after a brief illness. He was 82.



Br. Stephen was born on April 8, 1923, in Toledo, to Fred and Albina (Ernst) Lauer.

He entered the Missionaries of the Precious Blood in 1945, and was professed in 1946. After his profession, he served the Community for a few years at its St. Marys Novitiate, Burkettsville, Ohio, before he was assigned to the Community's high school seminary, Brunnerdale, in Canton, Ohio, from 1957-64. He was then assigned to St. Charles, where, except for a brief return to Brunnerdale, he spent the rest of his life. At St. Charles, Br. Stephen worked in a variety of ministries in support of the household.

Survivors include two brothers and a sister-in-law, Robert and Mary Ann Lauer, Toledo; and Dr. Daniel Lauer, Leawood, Kan.; a sister and brother-in-law, Gerald and Carol Harms, Somerset Center, Mich.; and numerous nieces and nephews, great-nieces and great nephews.

One brother, Lt. Tom Lauer, was killed during World War II.

Br. Steve also accepted as family his Community members at St. Charles, where he was an invaluable member and unofficial greeter, said Fr. James Seibert, C.P.P.S., director of St. Charles. "He was a legacy here," Fr. Seibert said.

Br. Steve was irresistibly drawn to groups of people in red his entire life: to the Missionaries of the Precious Blood, who take red as their Community color; to the Cincinnati Reds; and to the St. Henry, Ohio, high school sports teams, whose colors are red and white.

A Mass of Christian burial will be held Thursday, September 1, 2005, at 2 p.m. at St. Charles, the Rev. Angelo Anthony, C.P.P.S., presiding. Burial will follow in the Community cemetery at St. Charles.

Calling hours will be held Wednesday, August 31, 2005, from 1-5 and 7-9 p.m., with a prayer service at 7 p.m.

Hogekamp and Sons Funeral Home, St. Henry, Ohio, is in charge of the arrangements. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Charles Center.