



Rev. John J. Coll, S.J.

June 11, 1926 - July 30, 2017

Fr. John Coll, SJ, former pastoral minister at Wheeling Jesuit University, and associate pastor at St. Paul's Cathedral in Pittsburgh, dies at 91. Rev. John J. Coll, SJ, was born in Pittsburgh, PA on June 11, 1926. He graduated from Central Catholic High School in Pittsburgh and entered the Society of Jesus at the Novitiate of St. Isaac Jogues in Wernersville, PA in 1944. He attended Woodstock College in Woodstock, MD, where he received a Master's in Teaching, a Doctorate in German and a Licentiate of Sacred Theology. He was ordained a priest on June 17, 1956. As a Jesuit scholastic, Fr. Coll taught German and History at Scranton Prep. Following ordination, he became a professor of Ethics at Wheeling Jesuit University until 1967 when he served as minister for Woodstock College. He then served a year as minister for Gonzaga High School in Washington, D.C., and for four years as pastoral minister at Old St. Joseph's Church in Philadelphia. Following a three-year assignment as minister at Loyola College in Baltimore from 1975 to 1978, Fr. Coll returned to his home town of Pittsburgh where he served for 18 years as associate pastor of St. Paul's Cathedral. He then returned to Wheeling Jesuit University and served as a pastoral minister and assistant to the rector from 1997 to 2011. Fr. Coll moved to the Colombiere Jesuit Community in Baltimore in 2011 and then to Manresa Hall Community in Philadelphia in 2016, praying for the Church and the Society of Jesus. He died on July 30, 2017 at the age of 91. Visitation for Fr. Coll will be on Thursday, August 3 in Manresa Hall, 261 City Ave., Merion Station, PA 19066 from 9 to 10:15 a.m.

The Funeral Mass will be celebrated in Manresa Hall (address above) at 10:30 a.m. Interment will be in the Jesuit Cemetery, Wernersville, PA immediately following. Condolences may also be sent to www.dinanfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Jesuit Cemetery

Wernersville, PA

Tribute Wall



“ *Rev. John J. Coll, S.J.*

February 03, 2023 at 04:11 AM



“ *Fr. John J. Coll always seemed to be the perfect teacher. He taught my Ethics course at Wheeling College in the early 1960s. I remember him as always well prepared, succinct, friendly without being overbearing, never had a personal agenda, and furnished a detailed course outline. In 1962 Fr. Coll was one of the professors assigned for my oral examination required for a baccalaureate degree. Students were to orally explain the application of moral concepts. Fr. Coll's unforgettable ethics question to me was: "When you have children, are you going to tell them there is a Santa Claus?" Fr. Coll seemed genuinely amused by my response, but he gave me a passing grade anyway. Requiescat in Pace.*
Mike Fahy, Class of 1962

Mike Fahy - August 01, 2017 at 09:06 PM



my condolences to both the family and the larger jesuit community. father coll's contributions were extensive over his lifetime. as such, he is irreplaceable.

maureen d. brucker nee moynihan class of 1967

maureen brucker - August 02, 2017 at 03:36 PM



It was wonderful to still visit with him at the reunions long after he was our teacher. Felt that kept up his affection for us.

Lee Malone, '62

Isabel Lee Malone - August 02, 2017 at 03:59 PM