



*The death has occurred of Bro. AUGUSTINE (PAT)
McCORMACK MI*

(Order of St. Camillus)

Bro. Augustine was born Co. Longford in the Irish Midlands on the feast of St. Camillus 1925. He was one of eleven children born into a devout Irish Catholic family. He was educated in the local schools and at the age of 24 he felt a call to the religious life. This led him in 1949 to the Camillians and to London where he began his postulancy and nurse training. In 1952 he returned to Ireland to begin his noviciate in Killucan. He regarded this as a blessed period in his life, maintaining that his novice master, Fr.

John Cleary, left an indelible mark. He made his first profession on 29th September 1953 here in Killucan.

Over the next sixty seven years he ministered in England for two periods, he had three stints in Killucan and one in Dublin. He worked for the first 27 years as a nurse. On one of these appointments his work as a nurse meant cycling up to and over 40 miles to care for the sick in their own homes, as there were no community nurses in Ireland in those days. This was a voluntary service provided by the Killucan community for over thirty years

His last move took him back to Killucan where he would spend the final 44 years of his life. Forty years of the final stage of his life's journey were spent travelling Monday to Friday throughout the length and breadth of Ireland collecting the mite boxes of St. Camillus. This he did with huge financial success.

He was a workaholic who always had to be doing something useful for the community and he was always faithful to his community and the religious exercises. He could be very demanding on those who took things too easy.

As a carer Gussie was the most practical of men and seemed to have an uncanny knack of always knowing the right thing to do in emergencies.

Augustine was the best known Camillian in Ireland. He was our PR man, and no matter where he went or what he did it was always the sick that came first. He was affectionately known as the "little red haired brother", or simply as "Gussie". Through him the little Red Cross and relic of St. Camillus became known throughout our country. People would say he was a true legend.

Bro Augustine died peacefully at St. Camillus Nursing Centre, Killucan on the 15th June in the loving care of his sister Teresa, the Nursing Centre staff and his religious community. He was a few days short of his 95th birthday. In compliance with current Government guidelines during Covid19 Augustine's funeral mass was for immediate family and his community only. It took place at St. Camillus Nursing Centre Chapel at 12.00 noon on Wednesday and his burial was in the adjoining community cemetery.

May his generous soul rest in peace