

Fr. Phil Cabasino, C.Ss.R., the Oldest Priest in the Baltimore Province, Dies Just 25 Days Before his 100th Birthday.

[redemptorists.com/father-phil-cabasino-c-ss-r-the-oldest-priest-in-the-baltimore-province-dies-just-25-days-before-his-100th-birthday](http://redemptorists.com/father-phil-cabasino-c-ss-r-the-oldest-priest-in-the-baltimore-province-dies-just-25-days-before-his-100th-birthday)

# Plentiful Redemption



**NEWS FROM THE REDEMPTORIST  
CONFERENCE OF NORTH AMERICA**



We lost a great man yesterday. Father Phil Cabasino was the oldest Redemptorist in our province. He was looking forward to turning 100 on July 26, but he passed away yesterday in Baltimore after a brief illness.

Phil first professed his vows as a Redemptorist on August 2, 1941, and was ordained to the priesthood on June 22, 1947. I lived with Phil in Boston from 2004-2008. I have been an admirer of his ever since. He was a tremendous servant of others and a gracious presence in our community. In Boston we used to be part of the Redemptorist “house band” together. I played guitar while Phil worked the snare drum and the community sang along to folk tunes and old chestnuts for holidays like St. Patrick’s Day and the 4th of July. Phil used to tell me that in his seminary days the guys called him “Gene Krupa” for his skills on the kit.

Phil grew up in Douglaston, NY. One of my favorite stories he ever told me was how when he was a kid, he and a friend borrowed Boy Scout uniforms from some other kids in the neighborhood so that it would be easier for the two of them to hitch rides on an adventure up to see Niagara Falls. They hitched and camped their way to the falls and back with no problems. This was all before WWII, and well before the development of our big highway system.

Phil was a proud veteran who spent most of his priestly life serving as a military chaplain at home and abroad. When he retired from active duty service as an Army chaplain, he transitioned to serve full time as a chaplain with the VA, only completely retiring from that role in his 80’s, when we lived together in Boston.

Phil was sharp, generous, and insightful for as long as I knew him. I will miss Phil, but I hope to see him again in the Kingdom of God. For now, I pray that he may enter quickly into the fullness of joy in God’s presence. And I hope that he will intercede with God for us, that we all might imitate his faithful service and generous love for God and others.  
Amen

***Submitted by Fr. Matt Allman, C.Ss.R.***