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Charles Russell, helper of needy

Charles Edward Russell's favorite saying was "Brighten a corner where you are."

Mr. Russell tried to do just that. He worked for 50 years with the St. Vincent De Paul Society, trying to help homeless and needy people.

"He tried to make people's personal lives better with his work at St. Vincent De Paul, and he tried to make our lives better with the way he lived his life," said his wife, Jane Osterman Russell.

Mr. Russell, 81, of Ft. Wright, died Monday at his home.

He was a member of the first graduating class at the University of Louisville, College of Engineering. He retired as a kitchen designer with Suburban Kitchens of Ohio, Cincinnati.

Mr. Russell was president of the Cathedral Basilica Council of the St. Vincent De Paul Soci-

ety and a member of the Holy Name Society at the Cathedral and the Bishop Carroll Council Knights of Columbus.

"He believed in the St. Vincent Society and helping your fellow man - the poor and the homeless," his wife said. "They would go to nursing homes every month and bring them candy and the Catholic newspaper to read."

Mr. Russell also was a Kentucky Colonel and founder and second president of the Kenton County Junior Chamber of Commerce. During his tenure with the Junior Chamber of Commerce in the early 1940s, he spearheaded a project to place street signs along Dixie Highway from Covington to Erlanger.

"He was a family man who loved his home and his family," his wife said. "He was very wise. A simple man. He liked to walk

on the beach. He loved to go to the shore. He also enjoyed reading."

Other survivors include sons, Dr. Joseph Charles Russell of Anderson Township, Ohio, and Stephen James Russell of Milford, Ohio; daughters, Lucy Lee of Upper Saddle River, N.J., and Cecilia Ash of Annapolis, Md.; brothers, Rev. Paul M. Russell of Louisville and Lee Dell Russell of Paducah; and nine grandchildren.

Mass of Christian burial will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption, Covington. Visitation will be from 4 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at Henry Linnemann Sons Funeral Home, Covington. Burial will be in St. Mary Cemetery, Ft. Mitchell. Memorials are suggested to the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption, Covington.