

*Schmidt, Louis R 1928 - 2003*

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**The Rev. Louis R. Schmidt, priest and Air Force chaplain**

The Rev. Louis R. Schmidt was a priest for more than half a century.

And although the Bellevue native never really said what prompted him to join the priesthood or whether he was glad he did, his attitude suggested he'd made the right decision, according to his sister, Mildred Wildeboer of Bellevue.

"He just seemed happy," she said.

Rev. Schmidt, who had been living in retirement in Lexington, died Wednesday at Bluegrass Community Hospital in Versailles. He was 75.

Rev. Schmidt graduated from Covington Latin School and Villa Madonna College in Covington, St. Meinrad School of Theology in St. Meinrad, Ind., The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. and St. Vincent College in Latrobe, Pa.

He was ordained in 1954 and served as an Air Force chaplain during the Korean War.

Rev. Schmidt also served at St. John Church in Covington, Immaculate Conception in Newport, Holy Family in Ashland and Mary Queen of the Holy Rosary Church in Lexington.

In addition to Mrs. Boer, Rev. Schmidt is survived by a brother, Jerry Schmidt of Bellevue.

Mass of Christian burial will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at Divine Mercy Church in Bellevue.

Visitation will be from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday and from 9 to 10 a.m. Saturday at the church.

Burial will be in St. John Cemetery in Fort Mitchell.

Memorials are suggested to Taylor Manor Nursing Home, 300 Berry Ave., Versailles, Ky., 40383; or to the Priest Retirement Fund, 1310 Main St., Lexington, Ky., 40508.

A.C. Dobbling and Son Funeral Home in Bellevue is handling arrangements.

