## BROTHER BERTRAM

It is one of life's wonders that a person who touches our life only tangentially can affect us far beyond the few moments of shared experience. I first met Br. Bertram on his birthday, October 12, 1997. The event was the annual Br. Bertram Society dinner. It was an appreciation dinner of Christian Brothers High School for members of the Brother Bertram Society. On this evening I was being formally inducted and received a framed certificate which hangs today in my study. For five years I was privileged to attend Br. Bertram's birthday celebrations. I would come to grow in appreciation of the Lasallean tradition of service through education and in wonder at the man who celebrated his birthday by recognizing others. Each dinner was enlivened with reflections of warmth, hilarity, and dedication by Br. Bertram and his former students. As a teacher myself, I know that the real joy of teaching lies in interaction with students. I also know the amount of preparation, meetings, and administrative tasks that go into the recipe. Br. Bertram performed more than his share of these tasks, but he maintained an obvious joy in the individuality of his students. Br. Bertram combined the best of Mary and Martha in his teaching career. He is an inspiration to me.

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