

# Rev. Edward Paul Doyle, O.P. dies; former PC instructor

The Rev. Edward Paul Doyle, O.P., 89, of the St. Thomas Aquinas Priory at Providence College, who taught philosophy at PC for many years and then served as a campus minister for more than 20 years, died on April 12 at Miriam Hospital after an illness.

Born in Fall River, Mass., he was a son of the late Patrick J. and Anne (Harrison) Doyle. He was a graduate of B.M.C. Durfee High School in Fall River, and joined the Dominican Order in 1932.

Father Doyle was ordained to the priesthood in Somerset, Ohio, in 1939. He received his master's degree from Catholic University of America in 1941. He was a member of the faculty of the philosophy department at PC from 1941-54.

His teaching was interrupted by his services as an Army chaplain from 1943-1946, with a rank of major. Two months after D-Day in June 1944, he landed on the beaches of Cherbourg in France together with 15,000 other members of the 104th Infantry Division, experiencing 195 days of frontline combat.



*Rev. Edward  
Doyle, O.P.*

In April 1945 he was one of the first Americans to walk into the concentration camp of Nordhausen. "It was a world of horror, a world of tragedy, a world of death," he said. Ten years after the war, he returned to visit many of the graves of the 1,500 men from the 104th who were killed in combat. There were 76 missing in action. As national chaplain of "The Timberwolves," he attended 40 annual reunions with veterans of his old division.

Further study, college teaching, and campus ministry filled more than two decades of his life after leaving Providence College. In 1962 Father Doyle received his doctorate from the Aquinas Institute in River Forest, Ill. He spent a year as a research fellow at the Yale Divinity School. In 1976 he returned to Providence and performed parochial ministry at St. Raymond Church. He had a 20-year ministry at the Summit Medical Center. Father Doyle continued to celebrate weekday Masses as late as April 4 of this year.

He leaves nieces and nephews.

A concelebrated Mass of Christian Burial was held on April 15 at the Priory, followed by burial in the Dominican Community Cemetery at Providence College.