

W.F. McCarthy, Aquinas archivist

William F. McCarthy, who served as Aquinas High School's archivist after retiring from teaching English there, died Saturday of heart failure at his Rochester home. He was 61.

McCarthy retired in 1978, but continued to spend his mornings at the school and helped research the school's history as well as write press releases, said Father Richard Kinsky, Aquinas' spokesman.

The Aquinas Championship Bouts, which will be held Friday at the Dewey Avenue school, will be dedicated to McCarthy, who recently researched the origin of the boxing matches. A booklet commemorating the bouts' 50th anniversary was his last project at the school.

A Rochester native, McCarthy "loved to use the phone to call up people and promote things," Kinsky said. The Aquinas class of 1939, which included McCarthy, always finished near the top in the school's alumni fund drive, Kinsky said.

Father Thomas Miller, who taught history at Aquinas while McCarthy was on the faculty, said McCarthy was "a man whose zeal for any and every activity at the school was hard to equal."

In addition to his mother, Mary Ellen, McCarthy is survived by a sister, Betty Bardol of Rochester; two brothers, John W. and Paul, both of Rochester; and an aunt, Clara McGreal, also of Rochester.

— Mark Wert