

Of simple things....

December, 1996

It was a delightful May 6, and Dad and I were leaving to visit a shut-in friend of his - a person who had been in the hospital for a long while and was still not doing well.

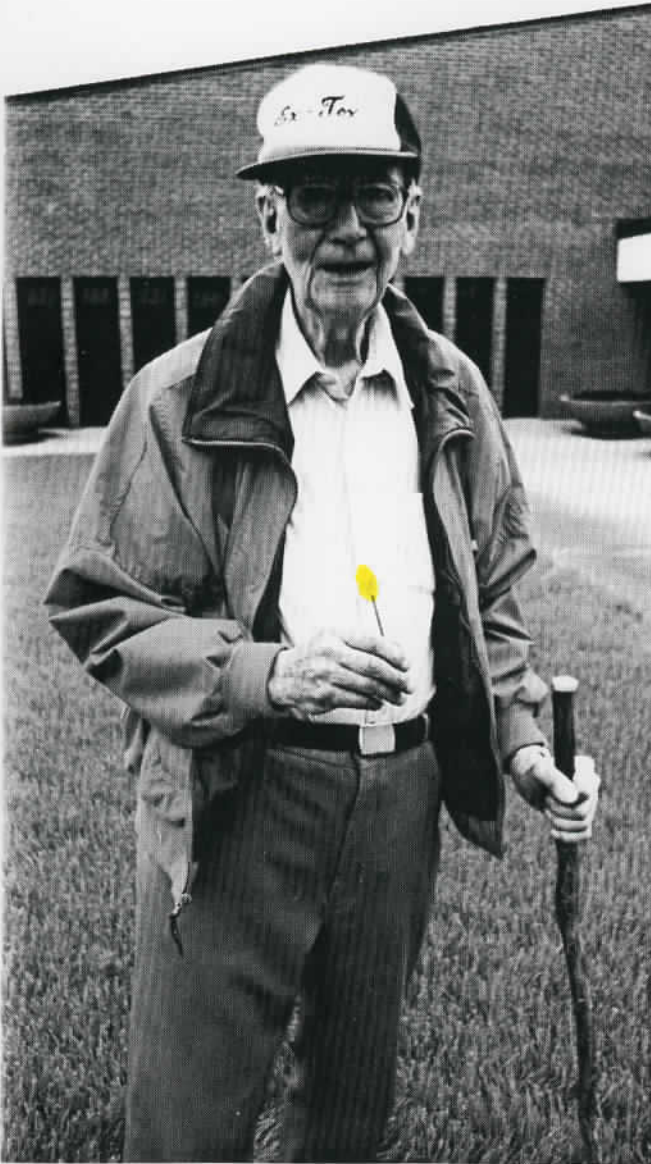
As we were leaving, he stopped in the yard and picked a dandelion - a flower for his friend. The flower was duly delivered, and it was a delight to see the reaction of the friend. The dandelion and the thoughtfulness of its presenter conveyed the true feelings of one human being towards another. It was, that day, the most exotic and priceless flower in the world.

How often in our material world do each of us, in one way or another, try to buy the friendship of another? It doesn't work, of course, but we try and try....

Perhaps it would be best for us to rediscover the simple things that convey true caring. There is a long list of things each of us could do which cost nothing but a bit of our time.

Dad has long nurtured the habit of giving simple gifts. For those of us without that habit, let's start small and work our way forward, giving these gifts without any strings attached. (And receiving such gifts with gratitude that someone cared enough...)

Have a very happy holiday and New Year.



Henry Bernard with his dandelion.



Many deserving charities can help you help others. Make these agencies, like Catholic Charities and Catholic Relief Services, a part of your planned giving now and always.