

## BISHOP EMERITUS CHARLES V. GRAHMANN

The Sacred Heart Catholic School family lost one of its most prominent members with the passing of Bishop Emeritus Charles Grahmann on August 14, 2018. A native son of Hallettsville, Bishop Grahmann is descended from German immigrants who arrived Texas in the 1880s. He was the 4<sup>th</sup> of 11 children, born on July 15, 1931, to Annie (Grafe) Grahmann and Nicholas Grahmann.

He attended Sacred Heart Catholic School from 1938 to 1945. After hearing a talk about priestly vocations, he was inspired to become a priest. Beginning in 8<sup>th</sup> grade, he attended St. John's Seminary in San Antonio. On March 17, 1956, he was ordained to the priesthood by Archbishop Robert Emmet Lucey at San Fernando Cathedral in San Antonio and celebrated his first Mass at Sacred Heart Church on March 18, 1956.



He served in several parishes and schools and then went on to earn a Master's Degree in Education and Counseling at Our Lady of the Lake University. In 1981 Pope John Paul II named him auxiliary bishop of San Antonio, and in 1982, the first Bishop of the new Diocese of Victoria. He was named Bishop of the Diocese of Dallas in 1990. During his time there, the diocese had a large increase of new Catholics moving to the area, and he was responsible for overseeing the new Catholic Conference and Formation Center in Oak Cliff and John Paul II High School in Plano.

He became bishop emeritus of the Diocese of Dallas in 2007 and in 2012 he moved to a retirement home for priests and bishops in San Antonio. Bishop Grahmann traveled extensively throughout his life and connected with many relatives in Germany and friends all over the world. The Grahmann family has established a scholarship for Sacred Heart Catholic School seniors in memory of Bishop Grahmann.

