



*In 1992, Willem visited Chile for a congress on the Apostolate of the Brothers*

*Willem's chief wish in life was to be surrounded by goodness. As a child he went to school and made his first acquaintance with the Brothers FIC, and he found goodness and loyalty there. When he was twelve, he joined them as a postulant. Whenever he felt uneasy he found comfort in his other great love, plant life. In 1961 he made his commitment and became a teacher in Nijmegen. There, he moved to a smaller community after a while and chose to be Willem again. He also learned to cook, a hobby which gave him great joy. In 1983, he had a heart attack and after that he moved to Bergeyk, where he met several women who influenced the course of his life. In 1987 Willem got involved in refugee work and there, he found his real calling. There, he could give love and support as he needed to. In 1994 he helped to re-found the community in the Hague and made a garden of the 'stone desert' in the heart of that city. Willem was a stubborn man where the needs of others were concerned. Sometimes he forgot his own needs. But he ended his life surrounded by the love and goodness he had sought.*