Lloyd Barry earned a degree in mechanical engineering from Louisiana State University in 1941, after which he joined the Order as a brother, which was unusual at the time for this grade of membership was thought not to need a college degree and specialized skills. He publicly urged for appropriate education the brothers. Lloyd was assigned to various high schools and parishes in the province (Grand Coteau, fourteen years; Spring Hill, ten; Jesuit Dallas, fifteen; Sacred Heart, El Paso, seven). Beginning in 1960, he supervised the projects and works of the “Brothers’ Maintenance Corps.”

Lloyd wrote once that “I didn’t set out to be a ‘teacher’” and “I have never taught a class,” but he was a teacher and taught many classes to Jesuit brothers. It was not enough that he was a recognized leader who shared his knowledge and skills with the Jesuit brothers, in 1957 he returned to Grand Coteau to take charge of the Brothers’ Technical Training Program. The aim of this program was to ensure that each brother receive appropriate training, status and respect in the Society. He remarked on the occasion of the final vows of Brother Charles Doherty: “Through the dedication to God of his prayers, works, and sacrifices, he will share in all the rights, privileges and obligations of all the members of the Order.”

One of Lloyd’s greatest contribution was his effort to inform people of the brother vocation. “What is a Jesuit brother? He is the man who teaches art at Spring Hill. . . Before any of these he is a JESUIT in the full sense of the word. The motivation in all JESUITS is the same: ‘For the greater glory of God and for the Salvation of Souls’. . . Their basic spiritual training is the same. . . Their community exercises are the same.”
Vatican II urged a return to the sources. In his investigation of the history of the brothers in the Society of Jesus, Lloyd found that in the early Society there was no separation of classes, although Rule 14 prohibited brothers from learning, if illiterate, when they entered the order. But He found in Ignatius’ writings three things about the first brothers: 1) juridical equality, 2) religious identity in the full sense, and 3) commitment to serve the Society in those things in which others cannot engage without detriment to the common good. Two generals in the twentieth century affirmed what Lloyd was laboring for. Wladimir Ledachowsk said: “Brothers should have quality education and training;” Jean-Baptiste Jannsens remarked : “We have only one ‘social class,’ that of the sons of the same society.”

Two periods of his life illustrate a directly pastoral bent. In 1965 he was posted to Campinas, Brazil. From 1970 to 1973 he joined brothers of the New Orleans Province, Tony Coco and Robert Hollingsworth at Centro Kennedy, a Jesuit vocational school, trying to teach the un-employed a trade. From 1988 to 1995 he was stationed at Sacred Heart in El Paso, where he found scope to engage in direct ministry to the poor and needy.

Lloyd was a champion who fought constantly that the Province make the most and best use of Jesuit brothers, which meant both appropriate education and training and a raising of the level of respect and status of a Jesuit Brother. Lloyd A. Barry SJ died minutes after sunrise on Easter Sunday, God’s exclamation point on a rich and zealous life.