



## IN REMEMBRANCE

**Leslie James Miller**

**August 3, 1944—August 23, 2025**



[Leslie Miller Obituary - Arlington Heights, IL](#)

The Christian Family Movement would like to extend our sympathy as well as gratitude to the Miller family. Les and Kathleen have contributed a great deal to the success of the movement over the last several decades.

Serving as spiritual advisors for CFM at Our Lady of the Wayside Parish in Arlington Heights, IL, they trained and inspired local group leaders, sharing their knowledge and exceptional preparatory materials with the national movement for wider benefit.

As long time CFMers, Les & Kathleen wrote a CFM meeting on raising kids and young adults and helping them stay Catholic. This chapter was shared nationally. In early 2018, the CFM board of directors recognized Les & Kathleen with an award for their dedicated service to families through CFM.

We honor the life of Les, whose faith, love, and tireless service greatly enriched CFM. His legacy is woven into the lives of countless families who were guided, strengthened, and inspired by his example.

May his memory continue to be a blessing and his good works bear fruit in the mission of CFM for generations to come.

If you would like to make a donation to CFM in honor of Les Miller, please send to: Christian Family Movement, Box 266 Dexter, MI 48130 or visit:

[https://www.cfm.org/support\\_cfm](https://www.cfm.org/support_cfm)

## CFM National Check-in With Local Leader Turns Out to be Highlight of the Day

As part of the CFM National Board, we usually make a yearly check-in to all the leaders of CFM groups across the country. Sometimes it can be challenging to reach people as no one likes to accept calls from people that don't come up in their contact list. But CFM tries to notify leaders by email of the upcoming call. This yearly check-in often turns out to be a highlight of the day when the parties connect.



Mary Ann Thelen tells this story of her call to Ardy Grosskopf of Brookfield, IL. It had been several years since the board had reached Ardy and her husband Fred. Ardy mentioned that she is now in her upper 80's and that her group is meeting sporadically and that she and her husband had moved to a Senior residence in the fall of 2022, saying goodbye to their home of 50 years. Sadly, in April of 2023, Fred passed away from a brain hemorrhage. On that day Fred was meeting for breakfast with all the men of their CFM group which they had been doing every two weeks for 20 years. They called themselves the ROMEOS (Retired Old Men Eating Out). Ardy said that the men were often hesitant to join a CFM group when first introduced to it, thinking it would just be a lot of talk, but soon saw the need to be part of it. The wives and widows of the Romeos (or the Juliettes) tried to find a similar pattern of going to breakfast, but couldn't make it work. However the Juliettes have now found their pattern by playing dominoes whenever they have a quorum.

Ardy shared that she and Fred had joined CFM in Chicago in the 1960's and later moved to LaGrange, IL where this CFM group formed. Her group has continued to be a source of support for all the members even as they have become widows or widowers, occasionally meeting as the full group, but finding it more difficult due to mobility and hosting. The beauty of CFM shone brightly in this call with Ardy. The community that CFM built withstood the test of time and the varying phases and stages of life. CFM truly creates families of families and Mary Ann and Ardy were immediately kindred spirits sharing the stories of faith and life. Thank you CFM! May God continue to bless families through this movement of the Holy Spirit!

# Destination Heaven: Leading our Families Home



Destination Heaven:  
Leading our Families Home



When it comes to raising children, parents are the primary educators and facilitators in the efforts to get their children to heaven. However, many people will impact, inspire and guide them throughout their lives.

According to St. Gianna Molla, "every vocation is a call to motherhood or fatherhood, earthly, spiritual and moral."

It is our desire that the topics in this book help us to better understand the role of parenthood, that we might impart to the next generation the richness of the life God intends for each of us—to know him, love him and serve him in this world and ultimately to attain our heart's deepest longing...for each of us and our families to dwell with our loving Father in heaven.

## A PRAYER FOR LABOR DAY

**God, in Your goodness,  
You have made a home for the worker.  
Bless all who labor each day to build up  
their families and communities.  
Protect those without jobs and  
sustain those whose work is burdensome.  
Be near to children forced to work  
instead of play,  
and to those who labor in  
unjust conditions.  
May the dignity of work be respected,  
and may we work together for  
justice and peace.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

# SHOW US YOUR BUSINESS



Send pics and videos of your CFM kick-off events to [act\\_editor@cfm.org](mailto:act_editor@cfm.org).  
We want to feature your group in ACT Newsletter and on our social media!

IT'S REGISTRATION TIME!

Use this link



[https://www.cfm.org/info\\_and\\_dues](https://www.cfm.org/info_and_dues)

Contact the office if you need help!  
[office@cfm.org](mailto:office@cfm.org) 800.581.9824

# Reminder



Paying your annual dues online is easy using your PayPal account.  
Consider adding an extra gift to support membership for those needing assistance.

## IN MEMORIAM

Marie Thelen is Past CFM President Brian Thelen's mom. Marie (and her late husband, Alphonse) were members and strong supporters of CFM.



[Marie Seraphine Thelen Obituary August 10, 2025 - Smith Family Funeral Homes](#)

## We are hard at work organizing a monthly online CFM group.

## Would you or someone you know be interested in joining?



Reach out to the office and let us know of your interest.

[office@cfm.org](mailto:office@cfm.org)  
800.581.9824

[cfm.org](http://cfm.org)

[DONATE](#)

Send news to  
[act\\_editor@cfm.org](mailto:act_editor@cfm.org)