



# INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF CHRISTIAN FAMILY MOVEMENTS

Mission San Jose



## THE TESTIMONY OF THE BEAUTY AND JOY OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY

NAME: **Andy and Judy Pozdol**

PLACE OF RESIDENCE: **Arlington Heights, IL, USA**

MARRIED YEARS: **33 yrs married**

CHILDREN: **2 adult girls**

GRANDCHILDREN: **1 grandson**



### JUST MARRIED VS. NOW:

Just married love was more about doing special things together or for each other. We were discovering about each other and being excited to learn together. Now, we know each other pretty well and have a good understanding of each other. Love is now being there for the other person and doing everyday things for each other and working together as a team. It's the feeling of being on the same page and getting thru the trials of everyday life together.

### VALUES AND ATTITUDES:

We both have always placed importance on faith in God and being involved at church. Andy was raised Catholic and Judy as a Lutheran. Each of us has remained a member of our denomination, but we both attend each other's church each week, and both of us have become involved in each other's church. One of the ways we been involved at Andy's church is through CFM. We joined CFM during our first year of marriage. CFM has given us so many opportunities to expand our faith, relationships and involvement in the parish. Our involvement in each other's churches has given both of us a very unique view of God and the church, and this is something we both treasure. We both have similar political and social viewpoints and are both well-organized, structured thinkers and doers.

**UNFORGETTABLE MOMENTS:** We met at work in Chicago, eventually married and continued working together until our first daughter was born. That time afforded us numerous moments together, some special and some every day, both on and off the job. Whether it was going for ice cream together on breaks or out to dinner and strolling the city after work or riding the train together to work or going to major events such as Pope John Paul II's Mass in Grant Park, we enjoyed so many magical moments together during those early years. Of course, the birth of our 2 girls were two more unforgettable moments as they have changed our lives in so many ways. Our children's choices and interests have led us down so many paths and provided numerous unforgettable moments that we cannot possibly list here. More unforgettable moments: Our trip to Fatima, Portugal for the 2007 ICCFM convention was our first and only overseas trip together as husband and wife and we had a wonderful experience. Andy prayed for guidance and direction from Mary at Fatima. When he returned to work after the trip, he was let go from his job of 31 years and our family had its first experience with unemployment. Andy later realized that his experience at Fatima was preparing him for this bad news.

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*"Let the Holy Spirit guide the mission of proclaiming the Gospel of marriage, family and life in the world"*



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**DIFFICULT MOMENT:** Periodically in our marriage we have had times where we have not felt sufficiently supported, heard or understood by each other. It seems these have been when one of us has been under unusual stress, often from the demands of a job or family circumstances. One of the recent family stresses has been that both of our adult daughters now live far from us. Our older daughter is in Hong Kong and our younger daughter is in Montana?

**KEEP MARRIAGE:** Knowing we can trust each other to be there for each other is a key. It is important to always respect your spouse's perspective, even if you don't always agree, and to listen without judgment.

**ADVICE:** Make God a partner in the marriage. Always work as a team in whatever you are doing-- that means sometimes doing things you don't like or want to do for the good of the team. Give each other space to enjoy their friends and personal interests.

\*Translated by Luis and Edgar Montalvo

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