



*Charles E.F. Millard* was a “true son” of the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts. He was a 1954 graduate of Holy Cross, chairman of the Board from 1977 to 1982, deeply involved in board activity for 30 years, and a generous donor to the College. He served as Chairman of the Campaign for Holy Cross (1989-1994). He received an honorary degree in 1999 and received the College’s *In Hoc Signo Vincas* award this year. His six children are all Holy Cross graduates.

Despite his fierce loyalty to Holy Cross, Millard’s first allegiance was to Christ and His Church. He experienced the rejection of his former partners on the College board—even his faith was publicly questioned by the College president in a newspaper article—because he strongly objected to the selection of political commentator Chris Matthews as the College’s commencement speaker and honorary degree recipient last May. Matthews, a Catholic alumnus of Holy Cross, advocates keeping abortion legal in the U.S., contrary to Catholic teaching. Millard’s public criticism of the College, joined by the Holy Cross Cardinal Newman Society and the national Cardinal Newman Society, convinced Bishop Daniel Reilly of Worcester to boycott the commencement ceremony.

Millard had been a highly successful CEO of Coca-Cola in New York and president of the New York Urban League.

Millard died on October 20 at his home in Connecticut, leaving his wife Marylou, six children and 24 grandchildren. The Ex Corde Ecclesiae Award will be presented to his family in recognition of his courageous and inspiring leadership.