

Don Wildmon Hospitalized

✖ American Family Association (AFA) founder Don Wildmon is in critical condition at a Tupelo, Miss., hospital, where he is being treated for meningitis.

AFA spokeswoman Cindy Roberts said the 71-year-old was taken to the hospital Friday afternoon and diagnosed with the disease over the weekend. On Tuesday, she said he remained in intensive care but was making small improvements.

“We are taking it day by day,” AFA President Tim Wildmon said in a statement to supporters. “We thank all those who have let us know they are praying for Dad, our family and the AFA/[American Family Radio] family. Dad has served the Lord for many years and he is in His hands.”

Meningitis is an inflammation of the membranes that cover the brain and spinal cord. According to the Centers for Disease Control, it is usually caused by a viral or bacterial infection.

Wildmon, a former Methodist pastor, founded the AFA in 1977. Known for its opposition to abortion, gay marriage, media indecency and other family-related issues, the organization claims more than 2 million online supporters and operates nearly 200 radio stations nationwide under American Family Radio.