

> -----Original Message-----
> From: KAREN A CAHILL
> Sent: Monday, May 08, 2006 9:29 AM
> To: Farr, Sue
> Subject: Re: Cadet Challenge

Hi Sue,

I greatly enjoyed working with you and Katie last week. I learned more about embroidery machines from her that will be helpful. Working with the other moms and girls at the Cadet tables was definitely a high point in my week.

You mentioned one morning how you encouraged Roger to become involved in Cadets and that got me thinking. Then Roger at the Friday ceremony mentioned the Basic manual and making beds for a number of days. I later asked Jeff if he had done the basic manual ... he smiled and shared that that's why my bed is now made every morning. I never made the connection. For 5 or 6 years now, I rise early.... and take a long walk. When I return the bed is always made. My love language is acts of service, so even now; the sight of that bed is a gift at the beginning of each day. I was able to share with Jeff this weekend how excited I still feel each morning.

I also thought I'd share how Jeff and the boys got in Cadets. When the program first started, Jeff, Brian and Kevin were already involved in Boy Scouts and so continued with it, culminating in Eagle Scout recognition for both. There were reasons why Jeff was hesitant to continue scouting with the younger boys, so we weren't doing anything. Then our family went through a year of intense turmoil ... our daughter Rachel left home, with the encouragement of church friends and grandparents.... our older children's hearts were being pulled in two directions ... Jeff and I began to question why we had made the choices we'd made for our family if this was the result. We were being reviled on all sides ... it was about this time that I encouraged Jeff to join Cadets; because of the fellowship he would have with like-minded dads. He did. We continue to marvel at the Cadet program and it's flexibility. While Jim and Carol have a large organized Cadet squad in Garland with structured meetings, award ceremonies and banquets, for us, it's always been a few dads and their sons meeting at a different home each time. The dads bring their expertise to the meetings ... gardening ... plumbing ... PT ... compass skills ... cooking bread. We love what Cadets does to bring fathers and sons together and the sweet fellowship it encourages between the dads as they plan and share. Not only has Cadets filled a need for our sons, but it's helped Jeff in his walk with the Lord.

We are grateful to your family and others for the sacrifices made to encourage this program. And on another note ... for several years now, Jeff has spent most of his time at the conference toddling along with the Cadets and missing the majority of the speaker sessions ... he loves it and gains practical and spiritual insights each year. I grin as he shares things he's learned with the guys. He loves it. Thanks for all ... I pray that in the midst of this busy summer of conferences your family can still find meaningful times together.

With love,
Karen Cahill