

The Sharing Org

Ministry to the Adult Foster Care Community

June 2013

Ministry Moment:

As he shook my hand he said, "*Damned Germans - Useless pieces of trash...*"

His words hung for a moment; then he looked me in the eye and said, "Thank you for coming John, I so really enjoyed the service and would not dream of missing it." I shook his hand and wondered at his comment about the Germans and figured it was just a kick back to his service during WWII. While I would have loved to engage him and talk more about it, time did not permit me to do so. 'Another Day.' I thought and I left.

He was one of those guys that you instantly fall in love with. He was quick with a smile, an eager handshake, and the most warm of piercing blue eyes. When he spoke to me, he was being genuine and we were friends. He called me John without any presumption of the collar that I wear, and he genuinely enjoyed our short times together.

Well, the days flew by, and each week he would shake my hand, look me in the eye and express his thanks and gratitude to me for preaching the love of Jesus to him and his housemates. Then one week he was not there (*not feeling well, stayed in bed*), then the next week, too, so the third week I arrived early to visit him in his room, but he was not there – *He was in the hospital*. So the following week I arrived early, and even though he had been home from the hospital that week, he had already gone back again - *However he would be home later that evening*. The next week I arrived early again to learn that he indeed did come home, but he had passed away during the night earlier that week...

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I hate times like this as I begin to pound myself with accusations of guilt. "I should have gone to the hospital." "I should have visited him on my off-scheduled visits." "I should have, I should have, I should have..."

I sure hope he remembered how much Jesus loved him as did I...

~John

Prayer Letter:

Dear Andy & Sally,

This past month we had a kick-off to our annual shoebox program at Stevi B's. Thanks to all of you who were able to make it out and enjoy some great pizza – I enjoyed seeing all of you.

We have set a date for the **2nd Annual Putt-Putt Classic** at the **World's Finest Frozen Custard & Mini Golf** (www.worldsfinestfrozcustard.com/) – Saturday JULY 20th from 11AM-2PM. All details still need to be set, but as soon as we have the details hammered out I will let you know. Please be praying and thinking about who you can invite. (*Think church youth groups, boy & girl scouting troops, AWANA clubs, dance troops, and the like.*)

Last month I asked you to pray for me as my health had been wobbling. I seem to have stabilized, and I am thankful that I am still able walk. Yesterday I was able to toss the whiffle ball to the kids as they smacked it with their bat. I was sitting on the ground as I did this, and I did not shag the balls as they landed around the yard, but I was grateful for this opportunity to play with them a bit like this. And it was a super beautiful day, too!

In the coming month, please pray that all of the details for the 2nd Annual Putt-Putt Classic fall into place and that we are able to raise the money (and collect the items) for this year's shoebox program. If you are not on my email list, please send me your email (john@thesharing.org) so that you will get the updated information for this event. And visit our website occasionally to learn about updates and details as well.

Please be well this month!

In the Service of the Savior,



John