



In Memoriam

Todd Anderson, 1972-2000

Quickly and quietly came the call
 Your sudden departure shocked us all
 Your loving smile, your gentle face
 No one can fill your empty place
 Killed by Roger Wayne Fielstra,
 a convicted drunk driver.
 Mom, Dad, family and friends

A letter to my daughter

(Reprinted from Reader's Digest, October, 2013)

"Dear Little One,
 "Recently, your mother and I were searching the Internet, and Google returned a list of the most popular searches in the world. Perched at the top was 'How to keep him interested.'
 "It startled me. I scanned several of the countless articles about how to be sexy, when to bring him a beer versus a sandwich, and the ways to make him feel smart and superior.
 "And I got angry.
 "Little One, it is not, has never been, and never will be your job to "keep him interested."
 "Little One, your only task is to know deeply in your soul — in that unshakable place that isn't rattled by rejection and loss and ego — that you are worthy of interest. (If you can remember that everyone else is worthy of interest also, the battle of your life will be mostly won. But that is a letter for another day.)
 "If you can trust your worth in this way, you will attract a boy who is both capable of interest and who wants to spend his one life investing all his interest in you.
 "Little One, I want to tell you about the boy who doesn't need to be kept interested, because he knows you are interesting:
 "I don't care if he puts his elbows on the dinner table — as long as he puts his eyes on the way your nose scrunches when you smile. And then can't stop looking.
 "I don't care if he can't play a bit of golf with me — as long as he can play with the children you give him and revel in all the glorious and frustrating ways they are just like you.
 "I couldn't care less how he votes — as long as he wakes up every morning and daily elects you to a place of honor in your home and a place of reverence in his heart.
 "In the end, Little One, if you stumble across a man like that, and he and I have nothing else in common, we will have the most important thing in common: You.
 "Your eternally interested guy,
 "Daddy"•

Trail Life USA — A Christian alternative to the Boy Scouts

(Condensed from the American Family Association newsletter)

In May, the Boy Scouts of America voted to begin allowing open and avowed homosexuals into its ranks, leading to an exodus of families looking to protect their sons.
 A new group, Trail Life USA, was unveiled publicly for the first time on September 6 in Nashville, Tennessee to more than 1,200 former Scoutmasters, Eagle Scouts, parents, church leaders, and former Boy Scouts of America professionals who attended the inaugural leadership convention.
 Trail Life USA is a Christian adventure, character and leadership movement for young men. The K-12 program centers on outdoor experiences that build a young man's skills and allow him to grow on a personal level and as a role model and leader for his peers. Living the Trail Life is a journey established on timeless values derived from the Bible.
 Trail Life USA is worthy of your support. If your family is looking for an alternative to the boy scouts, please take a few moments to look over their web site at www.traillifeusa.com and view their video. •

50 YEARS OF FOOTBALL AT FRUITPORT HIGH SCHOOL!

(Photos by Lion Bernie Langlois)

