

# MY NEW BUDDY...

It was one year ago that I mentioned to a neighbor that I would like to be a mentor to a young fellow. I enjoyed wonderful influences in my life mostly through Scouting and thought I needed to share those experiences with someone. I discovered a half dozen of my friends had been mentors for Bridges-Kinship Mentoring and considered it a cherished experience. I even met several of my friends' matches.

This sounded like just the program I was seeking but I spent a year looking for the right time to get started. I finally kicked myself and walked into Bridges-Kinship Mentoring's office and signed up. It was quick and easy and in very short order a match was selected.



Tristion and I were matched right before his Christmas school break began. Since we had this two week span of time to get acquainted we took full advantage of this opportunity. We went ice fishing twice, took in a couple high school hockey games, walked our dogs, chatted on Face Book, talked on the phone and went to his archery team practice. He is so enthusiastic about everything that he even says he wants to help me finish cleaning up downed trees in my neighborhood and split the wood. Friends of mine are checking around for cross-country ski gear that will fit Tristion so this will be another activity. He is such a polished and polite individual and pure joy to hang out with.

In just over two weeks we found common ground and an appreciation of each other's time. There are so many more places to see, people to meet, discoveries to be made and fun to be had. This connection will be good for both of us. I think we will be friends for a long time.