

Notes

A few words, written or spoken, can have a powerful and lasting influence. We cherish heart-felt words from a family member, close friends, and brothers and sisters in Christ. Those hand-written notes are the best ones because they come from the heart of the writer. The ones written with a crayon by small children are also special.

I've heard numerous people comment about the cards they received from members of the Karns congregation, i.e., cards prepared by the Monday evening Card Ministry, cards placed in the foyer and signed by members of the congregation and cards from individuals members. The elders receive notes of encouragement and thanks from the Karns family and they always lift our spirits. I keep them and occasionally read them again.

Many years ago, I wrote one of our sons a brief letter at a time when I thought he needed encouragement. I told him I loved him and he was all I ever wanted in a son. It was not a long letter nor was it particularly well thought-out but a simple note from the heart. He did not acknowledge he had received the letter and I didn't ask if he received the letter. One day, several years later while just the two of us were hiking, he said "Dad, do you remember the letter you wrote back (when), I keep it in my Bible."

A heart-warming made-for-television movie in 2007 titled "The Note" tells a story of a search to find the true recipient of a note written by a man to his adopted daughter shortly before he died in a plane crash. Such stories stir our emotions and cause us to love and appreciate our friends and family. The notes written by members of the Karns congregation to those who have undergone surgery, those dealing with death in their family and the happy times like birthdays and anniversaries may not be the subject of a television movie, but in their own way these expressions of love are just as meaningful and heart-warming.

So, let me thank all of you note and card writers and encourage you to continue your work of "stirring up love and good works" (Heb. 10:24) in the Lord's body at Karns. And remember, some of the notes will likely be read again long after they were written.

For the elders,
Don Denton