

To Whom It May Concern,

Once or twice in a lifetime we experience a moment that leaves a deep and lasting impression. I enjoyed one of those moments when I first heard Susan King and her son Patrick speak. What I heard was a poignet story of a mother who refused to give up on a child diagnosed with physical and mental disabilities and a child who, to this very day, absolutely refuses to quit at anything.

One is on an emotional rollercoaster while listening to their story and realizes that our problems are small in comparison. The realization from the presentation is that courage, determination, perseverance and prayer pay off in a big way.

I asked Susan to speak to our Civitan Club after hearing that she had written a book and was on the lecture circuit. Since I have known Susan and David King and was familiar with her son's story, I felt it would be nice to have her share it with our Club. Words cannot express how awed and moved we all were by the presentation Susan and Patrick gave at our meeting. Standing ovations are unheard of at our Club, as is having half the members stand in line to speak with presenters; yet, that is just what happened after Susan and Patrick spoke.

After hearing their story, many of us bought her book which represents an expanded tale of total love and dedication to a son. It still makes me ashamed of myself for complaining about the simple roadblocks of life when others have sacrificed so much and, through perseverance and God's blessings, overcame as many obstacles as they did.

Because we were so impressed, we asked Susan and Patrick to speak at the District Convention of N.C. West Civitan. I sat and smiled as I watched the crowd react to the presentation. Our members were moved to laughter, tears, sadness and joy as Susan and Patrick's lives were shared with them. This presentation garnered not one but two standing ovations and raucous applause. The telling sign was the long line waiting for autographed copies of their book. This was again something I have never witnessed from our membership.

The intertwining stories of mother and son as they traveled through their very rocky road of life is uplifting, inspiring and heart warming. I highly recommend them as speakers who can share a once in a lifetime experience and lighten your heart at the same time.

Sincerely,

Frank W. Goodnight, President Diversified Graphics, Inc.

Frank Gooding

NC District West Civitan Past Governor

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