



Welcome to Miss Curly's space

How does a question begin an avalanche of ideas that turns into a project? Recently, the Kingdom Kidz experienced just that. I am so excited to be a part of all of this, too. When Miss Donna (Bridge), General Manager, was approached at the funeral of Margaret Gertrude

Donna and Curly Evans, fondly known as Peggy "Lulu" by her family, she was asked, "Do you have anything at your Puppet Home that we could give as a memorial to the Kidz in memory of Peggy? While sitting in the service and hearing about Peggy's life activities of doing for others and her sister (Mary Showers) describing her as the most loving, caring and friendliest person she ever knew, the question brought just one idea to Miss Donna. Renovations were being made at the Puppet HOME (11 E. 3rd St., Watsontown) to the social hall. What a perfect place to put a memorial as this room would be used for outreach to the community where they would feel loved and cared for, just as Peggy did.

Generous in her soda tab and box top collections, she was a constant "friend and encourager" of Kingdom Kidz. She had her entire family, including brother and sisters (Mary Showers, Thornton Moser, Richard Moser and Ethel Mae "Cookie" Keister), as well as nieces and nephews involved in the collections. She would call Donna and ask her to stop to gather the collections.

Not knowing how this memorial would happen, throughout the next month prayer was given to the idea and a phone call was placed to Peggy's stepdaughter, Judy McLaughlin (who had asked the question.) Then the family gathered together for another event and ideas began to flow. As Miss Donna asked for name suggestions of the room, several (Peggy's Palace, Lulu's Place, Peggy's Nook, Peggy's Corner) flowed forth. Since the room would be used for outreach to the community and the word "king" is part of Kingdom Kidz, the family chose "Peggy's Palace." Oh my, I would be part of a palace. So I am now a princess in the making. Wonderful! Wonder what my crown will look like? Hmmm....

Because family was important to Peggy and she loved getting together with them, the natural progression for the name came to fruition. Peggy's life's mission was to reach out to others, just as Kingdom Kidz does. Her grandson, Mark Moser, stated that having this room named "Peggy's Palace" was a fitting way to honor her. He shared at a family gathering, "It's like God had this planned." His wife Sheila remembers walking pass Peggy's house and receiving a quick smile and wave from Peggy, even before she married Mark. Grandson Zach McGee noted that when he would take Peggy somewhere, "it would take a while to get home because Peggy knew everyone and many conversations were happening." Yep, sounds like I'm going to like this princess and palace thing after all.

So a dedication of the room was planned and I found a nice spot in the lobby to welcome everyone. Yes, there I am. But I don't have a crown yet. Could it be that a crown won't fit on my curls? Well, I'll be patient and wait to see what happens.

Lots of people came to the OPEN HOUSE and I smiled. I even heard a child say, "Look, there's Miss Curly." Oh my, maybe he will talk to Miss Donna about my crown. I did get to meet Justin Kline, from Mechanicsburg who presented a mime program followed by a black light puppet program in the Creative Arts Center. (I sat that one out! A princess can't mess up her curls, you know.)

Peggy's brother, Thornton (Sonny) Moser inquired about having her bicycle (NELLIE BELLE) as part of the dedication. This was Peggy's mode of transportation given to her by a neighbor, Tom Fetzer. The basket was used to transport her nephew, Paul Jr., when he was 3 or 4 years old while she went on errands. Now if I'm patient enough, Miss Donna may take me for a ride in the basket. This is going to be fun!

And there's more! A scenery mural, to be painted by Warrior Run students, is being planned for the one wall in "Peggy's Palace". Now Peggy riding her bicycle will be implemented in the mural as depicted by a photo the family has found. Oh, I wonder if I'll be in the mural, too? I know, patience!!!!

Just think- A simple question when given to God for an answer has resulted in a memorial for a person who was a "friend and encourager" of Kingdom Kidz sharing their vision of reaching out to others with God's love. And the first gathering I got to experience was a tea for mothers, caregivers, and their daughters. It was a great time. I even got to have tea- just like a princess in a palace. Hey, I'm really liking my new position here. I think I could get used to it.

Can't wait for the Father/child event on June 25 at 6pm. I wonder what it will be like? And then the Puppet Day Camp in August? This place is getting busy. I think Miss Donna and Miss Lisa (Derr) should call this place the Puppet Palace. Think I'll suggest it! After all, I'm a princess living here on a stand in the lobby, welcoming everyone! I could really get used to this! No more hot trucks or vans!!! Oh the life of a princess puppet!

For more information about Kingdom Kidz Inc. and their nonprofit organization, visit www.hiskingdomkidz.org.

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