

John Carlson (JC) and Patricia Carlson (PC)

PC: John, start by telling me how you would describe yourself.

JC: As a person, I would describe myself as caring and fairly intelligent, helpful, trustworthy, loyal, friendly, courteous, kind, fairly obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, and clean.

PC: That sounds like a list I've heard before. What is that list?

JC: 12 points of the scout law.

PC: And what about Boy Scouts?

JC: That is my favorite thing. I love doing that. During all this, that was probably the hardest thing to be away from. My patrol and my Boy Scout troop, we wanted to do a patrol outing, which originally was going to be bowling, but one of the big side effects I have is fatigue. I couldn't pick up a bowling ball, that would be way too hard, and I told my patrol leader that. And he immediately said, "okay, we're not doing that. That's off the list. That's out of the picture." They don't do anything if I'm not able to do it. They want me to be able to do everything they are able to do. And it really means a lot.

PC: And I know you've made some very good friends here--Dr. Carroll being one of them. Tell me a little bit about how that has impacted your experience here.

JC: Dr. Carroll is the head doctor in the ICU. He is also a boy scout in the same council as me and my father and he is a Scoutmaster and I've made friends with him and his three kids since then. And when I come into the hospital, he will come up and bring his son and we'll play video games together before I get my

chemo. It's one of the few times I'm in the hospital feeling okay. That's one of the things I'm able to look forward to and make it possible for me to do this.

PC: Tell me about one of your happiest moments since you've been diagnosed.

JC: I think one of the happiest moments is truly when I got my Star Scout. I worked with Dr. Carroll in the hospital all the time when I was in-patient on my Star Scout rank, which is one of the highest ranks in Boy Scouts. And I was able to go to my troop meeting and have it presented to me. And I don't remember a time since I got diagnosed that I was so happy. I plan on becoming an Eagle Scout and choosing Dr. Carroll as being the person to present me with my Eagle Scout badge in my ceremony.