

# THE NATIONAL JEWISH COMMITTEE ON SCOUTING

## ***Eagle Scout Court of Honor Invocation***

Our God and God of our ancestors, This is a day of celebration and accomplishment. \_\_\_\_\_ has waded down the path and navigated the trail that brings him to this Eagle Court of Honor. We are grateful, O God, for the sense of commitment \_\_\_\_\_ has demonstrated. We are proud that \_\_\_\_\_ took seriously the responsibilities and obligations of a scout weaving the values of our movement into the rich fabric of his life. We are mindful of the strength and effort it requires for a young person to arrive at this special moment.

Bless O God, \_\_\_\_\_ parents whose love nurtured, encouraged and supported him on his trail to Eagle. May they be privileged to rejoice in all his accomplishments yet to come. Bless also those dedicated and intrepid leaders who worked with \_\_\_\_\_, teaching him, molding his character, contributing to the values he reflects both as a scout and as a person.

We pray, O God, that \_\_\_\_\_ will recognize the responsibility soon to be placed on his shoulders. That as an Eagle Scout, he joins the company of men who have, by word, deed and action upheld a way of life and an approach to living that reflects the best in our nation. May \_\_\_\_\_ serve as a role model for his troop mates and may his life reflect the values of the Scout Law, the Scout Oath and traditions of his faith. Amen

## ***Eagle Scout Court of Honor Benediction***

The story is told of a missionary who spent two years on a tiny island in the middle of the Pacific. When the time came for him to leave the island, he had to walk an entire day and night through the jungle to a small grass landing strip to meet a plane that would take him to the larger island where he would then board a jet for home. As the missionary was getting into the small plane, out of the corner of his eye he spotted a young boy running onto the grass air strip; waving his hands and shouting The boy, a villager with whom the missionary had lived those past two years, ran up to the plane and handed him a shell. On the inside of the shell was carved an exquisite replica of the village, in full and exact detail. "O my," exclaimed the missionary. This is breathtakingly beautiful. Thank you so much. I will cherish this for ever" And then it dawned on this missionary, he said to the boy, "In order to get here in time you must have run all night and most of the day." "That's right," said the boy. "I did run all night....but the journey is part of the gift."

So it is with us on this day. While we celebrate the outstanding achievement of \_\_\_\_\_ and his becoming an Eagle today, we also acknowledge that the journey is part of the gift. \_\_\_\_\_, on this day which is so rich with the fruits of your diligence, we pray that you recognize that the trail to Eagle, this journey that has led you to this spot, is indeed a gift. We pray also, that you recognize that the journey does not end here. Quite the contrary, your journey continues, but now you navigate as an Eagle. May you know God's blessing and protection as you continue the journey and may you be a blessing to those you encounter along the way and to those who journey with you. Amen

