# PHILLIP RIOLA COH

*Piano Prelude – \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

**Phil:** Will all rise for the presentation of the flags?

*4 scouts bring up flag and troop flag*

**Phil:** Please join \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the Pledge of Allegiance.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: Scouts Solute

*Pledge lead by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

**Phil:** Thank you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Guests may be seated; scouts please remain standing for the oath the law lead by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: Scout signs.

*Scout Oath followed by Law lead by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

**Phil:** Thank you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, scouts you may be seated. I will now turn it over to Asbury Methodist’s Pastor Mindy for the Invocation.

**Pastor Mindy:** *prayer and welcome*

**Phil:** Thank you Pastor Mindy. Welcome family, friends and distinguished guests. It is with great pleasure that I welcome you today to my Eagle Court of Honor. For many of you this may be your first court of honor. All court of honors are different as each scout creates his own unique ceremony. It is my hope that throughout this afternoon you will have come to appreciate all I have accomplished during my journey in becoming an eagle scout. I would not be standing here today without your help, guidance and support. I did not get here alone, so today I share this ceremony with those who helped me along the way. Mr Ghandi is our troop committee chair and was instrumental in organizing my Court of honor as well as getting my award passed through the ranks at Minsi Trails. Mr. Ghandi, if you would please come forward for the special presentations.

**Mr.Ghandi:** *Special Presentations*

* Citations and Letters of Recognition
* Presentation of the US Flag

**Phil:** I would to thank Mr. Torres for his diligent efforts in trying to get this flag flown on July 23rd in memory of my Uncle Philip however, we did not give enough notice; plus it rained that day and its nice to have a nice clean and crisp flag. So Grandma, the next best date to fly the flag was August 30th. Oh… that’s her birthday for those who don’t know. Every time I hold my flag I’ll always remember that it was flown on your birthday.

**Mr Ghahdi:** At this time I would like to introduce Mr. Durfey, our troop’s scoutmaster.

**Mr. Durfey:** Phil, please come forward. The presentation of the eagle award is an important, serious, and joyous event. Eagle is the highest rank in boy scouting which only two percent of all scouts earn each year. The eagle is a living symbol of all courageous and freedom aspiring Americans. When the eagle badge was initially designed, it was decided to suspend a small silver eagle from a tricolor ribbon of red, white and blue. So it has remained to this day.

The foremost responsibility of the eagle is to live with honor. To an eagle scout, honor is the foundation of all character. He knows that “A scout is trustworthy,” the first point of the scout Law for a good reason. An eagle lives honorably, not only because of the infinite importance of doing so himself, but because of the vital significance of the example he sets for other scouts and other people. Living honorably reflects credit upon his family, troop, church, and community. Remember that the white of the eagle badge symbolizes honor. We charge that you, Philip, live your life with honor. Please light the white candle.

*Phil lights the white candle.*

**Mr. Durfey**: the second obligation of an eagle scout is loyalty. A scout us true to his family, scout leaders, friends, school, and nation. His loyalty to these members makes him pitch in and carry his share to the load. All of these help to build the loyalty that means devotion to his community, country, and ideals. Remember that the blue of the eagle badge symbolizes loyalty. We charge that you, Philip, be true to your values. Please light the blue candle.

*Phil lights the blue candle.*

**Mr. Durfey:** the third obligation of an eagle scout is to be courageous. Courage has always been a quality by which men measure themselves and others. To a scout, courage not only means bravery to face physical danger, but the determination to stand up for your principles and for what is right. Trusting God with faith, he looks forward to each day, seeking his share of the kingdom’s work to do. May the red of the eagle badge always remind you of courage? We charge you, Philip, live your life with courage. Please light the red candle.

*Phil lights the red candle.*

**Mr. Durfey**: the fourth obligation of an eagle scout is service. The Eagle Scout extends a helping hand to those who still toil on scouting’s trail, just as others helped him to climb to eagle. The performance of the daily good turn now takes on a new meaning as he continues service to others. The eagle stands as the protector of the weak and helpless. He aids and comforts the unfortunate and the oppressed. He upholds the rights of others while defending his own. We charge you, Philip, be prepared to put forward your best and offer service to others. Will Paula and Larry please step forward?

* *Eagle Acknowledgement – pin mother & father, parents pin scout*
* *Presentation of plaque + neckerchief*

**Phil**: It was the endless and unconditional help (I mean nagging) by my parents that I stand here today. Mom and Dad please like the white candles symbolizing the strength of family.

* *Paula Lights One White Candle*
* *Larry lights last white candle*
* *Larry, Paula, Durfey sit*

**Phil**: Thank you Mr. Durfey. All scouts must fulfill specific requirements before becoming eagle. Such as merit badges, specific volunteer hours, and of course the infamous eagle project. Pastor James Rivera is the pastor at City Limites Assembly of God Church. My eagle project took place at his church and I had to work very closely with him in order to complete the project. Pastor Jim, if you will please come forward.

**Pastor Jim**: *speaks*

**Phil**: Thank you pastor Jim. All troops have a troop master; I could not have been more fortunate and more blessed to have Mr. Durfey as mine. Mr. Durfey welcomed me as a Webelo in Pack 12 as a fourth grader and has kept me on the path to Eagle. I think you know where this is going… Mr. Durfey if you would please come forward… again.

**Mr. Durfey:** *speech*

**Phil:** Thank you Mr. Durfey. As the tradition of an Eagle Court of Honor goes the new Eagle Scout gets to stand up here and speak. I will not go through my entire scouting career because there is really good food back there and as any one of my friends would tell you I love things that light on fire and food. And cars but they don’t fit into the theme of an eagle court of honor; although I could tell all the stories that involve Mr. La Due’s and his truck; which we broke multiple parts of. But talking about Justin attempting to order ice-cream on i-95 in grid lock, or going off-road-ing, or how he almost drove off a bridge… don’t ask him he’ll just say… oh no I had plenty of clearance… but ask a scout that was in the truck they have a different story. Don’t ask multiple scouts because our stories may very depending on how we augment them with little anecdotes.

All joking aside, achieving the rank of eagle was no easy feat. It took a lot of work, dedication on my part and fellow scouts, friends, and family. Not to sound like the cliché actors at the award ceremonies… I could not have gotten to this point without my family, friends and fellow scouts. I just want to say to every scout here… this was one of the best life lessons I could ever ask for. People graduate from high school with a wealth of knowledge but no leadership experiences. Now more then ever being a leader is one of the most important skills you can have.

I leave you with a quote from Dwight Eisenhower, “Leadership is the art of getting someone else to do something you want done because he wants to do it.” Scouts, if your goal is to become an Eagle Scout, then your goal is to become the best leader you can become. Becoming that leader within you means knowing what you want and how to make others see it the same way. If you know those two things you will succeed both in scouting and in life.

**Kyle:** Will all scouts rise for the closing benediction…

And now by the great master of all scouting be with us until we meet again…

*Two Scouts Retire the Flags*

**Paula Riola:** Thank you very much for coming to honor Philip’s great achievement. I would like to invite everybody for lunch.