



MEMORIAL KIDS:

EAGLE SCOUT MATTHEW BERMAN EARNS EVERY MERIT BADGE

In the 114-year history of the Boy Scouts of America program, fewer than 600 scouts have earned every merit badge possible. Matthew Berman, an Eagle Scout and rising senior at The Kinkaid School, recently accomplished this feat by earning 139 merit badges, which span an array of activities including woodworking, white water rafting, astronomy, and bugling. Matthew's merit badge journey led him across the country from backpacking on the Appalachian Trail in North Carolina to camping among the Yellowstone Mountains in Wyoming.

His scouting adventure started in Cub Scouts with Troop 1703 at St. Francis Episcopal Church, where Matthew enjoyed selling popcorn by going door-to-door around his neighborhood and became

the troop's top popcorn seller for several years. After his Arrow of Light ceremony, Matthew advanced from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts and joined Troop 354 at St. Martin's Episcopal Church. He held many leadership roles within the troop, including Senior Patrol Leader, where he planned a backyard campout during the pandemic that allowed his troop to camp out individually and connect virtually to promote comradery among the troop.

In addition to scouting, Matthew serves as the Kinkaid senior class president, competes for the Falcons on the varsity football, swimming, and baseball teams, and is an active participant in Young Life. He hopes to continue to serve as a mentor for other young scouts.