



## ELEANOR EHRESMAN - Interview on Chicagoland Cursillo Beginnings

I remember when I went to Oklahoma to attend my first Cursillo weekend to represent our church and bring it back to First Presbyterian Evanston, I was overwhelmed by the kindness shown to me when we were strangers.

I had to relinquish my suitcase at the airport to be carried by someone else and could not believe all of the many facets of spiritual renewal. During that weekend, I felt so overwhelmed by the Holy Spirit and love shown to me. I wept when I received my palanca and enjoyed the quiet retreat the first night. The Serenade at the camp was attended by over 100 people.

When I came home to our church I was so on fire to bring this weekend experience to our church family.

We all pitched in and sewed the robes of righteousness in the Rubash's home. We made all of the aprons with butterfly decals and all of the many pillow palanca items.

Our first weekend in Chicago was enthusiastically enjoyed by all and it showed the church that we had something to offer to bring renewal to individuals. After 20 years we are still putting on weekends and have brought more churches into the fold in the Chicagoland area.

I also served as Moderator of the 20<sup>th</sup> weekend and it was a privilege to serve the community.

Eleanor Ehresman