

My Birthday Honey-Do List

By Jean Stene

Before my 92nd birthday Sue called me and said she would be down to celebrate my birthday. She asked me to make a list of things that she could do for me as she would be here for two weeks. That started my "Honey Do List."

This is how it started:

1. Sharpen my knives (the last time I tried to sharpen a knife was in 1950 and I ended up with three stitches in my thumb.)
2. Put my two pieces of black coral that a friend gave me when I visited there in the 1980's in shadow boxes with some shells.
3. Put together a soft picture book of "The Night Before Christmas" for a great-granddaughter for a gift.
4. Make a shadow box for a key collection.
5. Frame a hummingbird picture that Karen had given me that had stayed in a folder for a few years and hang it above my bed with two other hummingbirds.

That seemed to be a good beginning.

Because of the weather she didn't arrive until a day after my birthday but I told her I would be 92 for a whole year.

The first thing we did was celebrate my birthday with Lynn. Due to COVID-19 it was only the three of us.

My home became a workshop with my sewing machine out in the living room and three shadow boxes with all the things needed for all the projects. This was such a beautiful time to spend together. We reminisced. We went through all the pictures we took on our five week visit to Australia and how lucky we went when we did. It would have been so much harder for me later. It was so nice to reconnect with Mandy and meet her family. I had met Mandy when I took my Mother to Alaska in 1985 and had not seen her since. We were going to look at a lot of family pictures too, but with all our projects our time ran out.

Susan, with a little help from me, got almost all of my Honey Do List done. The hummingbird pictures are hung above my bed. The Christmas book is sewn and ready to wrap. Two of the three shadow boxes are done and the third one is laid out and partially finished. Oh, yes and I have really sharp knives!