

Stephanie Coy-Lykes  
**“Quilters are the best!”**

Stephanie bought her first Janome as she was getting ready to retire and came to Always In Stitches for a Christmas in July sale. We liked her so much, we convinced her to stay for August, September, October and all the other months of the year. Now she is the manager of the Sewing Machine Department.

Our Janome and Handi Quilter machines couldn't be in better hands. Neither could our machine customers and owners. Stephanie, who has a passion for gadgets, frequently goes to trainings to expand her knowledge about sewing, embroidery and quilting machines. She has developed a wealth of knowledge and has first-hand experience with nearly every machine the shop sells.

Stephanie gravitates to modern quilts, and she isn't afraid to challenge herself. “My son is a huge Cubs fan so I made my version of Wrigley Field, including the buildings, bleachers and infield” as a baby quilt for her grandson. “The fact that it meant so much to my son made it special. Quilting has never meant much to my four sons. This was the first one I made that did.”

**Specialties:** Quilting, beginning knitting, crochet

**Favorite fabric:** Any designs in blues and greens, especially modern designs

**Most memorable project:** “I had shared a Facebook post about the Labyrinth Walk quilt. It spoke to one of my sons. I don't think I ever told one of my boys no, so when he asked me to make it, I said yes. It was a bit of a challenge but with the help of my sister, who often makes the same things I make, we started them together at a quilt retreat. Mine was in shades of brown, hers in gray. It turned out beautifully, and he loves it.”

**I love quilting,** learning new ways to do things, helping others and all the wonderful people we get to meet daily at Always In Stitches. Quilters are the best!

**Next project:** “Hard to say. I have been trying to reorganize my sewing room and have found several projects that I've started. Right now I am enjoying playing with my HQ Avante on the Little Foot frame. I have been practicing feathers, flowers and edge-to-edge designs. There are so many YouTube videos available, I can spend hours looking and practicing on my dry erase board.”

**Best way to spend \$30:** “Shopping at Always In Stitches.”