

My Autobiography

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Intro To Teaching

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Abstract

There are some people that know who I am, there are many more that do not even know my name. I am, after all, just one person out of a billion in this world. I am one person, I have my own individual story that is unlike anyone else's in the world. Throughout my story, I have had joys and disappointments, victories and struggles, and my own likes and dislikes. I have been an unknown person to you until now. I am about to inform you by telling you the story of my life, and how I became the person I am today. No one can remember every second of his or her life, but the key moments from the past have made each of us who we are today.

My name is Jessica Lynn Stiffler, and my story began on May 15, 1989. I was born at Kosciusko Community Hospital which is located in Warsaw, Indiana. I am the second of three children born to Steve and Lori Stiffler. I have an older sister named Jenny, and a younger sister named Jaclyn. I have lived my whole life with my family on a small farm located outside of Akron, Indiana. Growing up on a farm has taught me many things, most importantly how to be responsible. I learned responsibility by caring for the farm animals each day. My family has spent most of our time together at home on the farm. Growing up, my family has always been close, and family time is still something I enjoy today. Throughout the years, my family has enjoyed camping, traveling, attending Sunday morning church services at Athens United Methodist Church, and simply just being with each other whenever possible.

I started my school days off at Jack and Jill Preschool. Jack and Jill Preschool was located in Mentone, Indiana at the local Methodist church. After, my wonderful preschool days came to an end, I advanced to Akron Elementary School. I completed kindergarten through fifth grade at Akron Elementary. I then completed sixth through eighth grade at Tippecanoe Valley Middle School which is also located in Akron Indiana. During middle school, I participated in Cross-Stitch Club and was a member of the cheerleading squad all three years. After middle school, I was eager to continue my education by attending Tippecanoe Valley High School.

During my high school career, I was active in several different clubs and activities. I was a member of Future Farmers of America and served as an office member by obtaining the Treasurer position. I was also involved in Fellowship of Christian

Athletes, Students Against Destructive Decisions, Varsity Club, National Honors Society, ESL, ICE, and I participated as a cheerleader all four years of high school.

Throughout my seven years of cheerleading, I have learned many new things. Cheerleading has provided me with the ability to perform in front of crowds, have confidence, and taught me how to be a leader. I was awarded captain my last year of cheering due to my dedication and leadership abilities. Cheerleading has helped shape my personality, and has had a big impact on who I am today. I learned how to be responsible, dedicated, hard working, and to be understanding toward many people with different personalities. My love for cheerleading has given me a lifetime of memories, and skills that I will use everyday of my life.

High school was a chance to experience all varieties of classes. The one class that helped me the most was Spanish class. I completed four years of Spanish while in high school. Through these Spanish courses, I was able to participate in many activities. Through ESL (English as a Second Language) I helped with childcare, and was a pen pal with an Hispanic student from Tippecanoe Valley Middle School which I participated in during my fourth year of Spanish classes. Students in my class traveled to Akron Elementary School once a week, where we worked with young students. We helped first graders learn the Spanish language, this is one experience I will never forget. Not only did we teach the children, the children taught us. By working with these young children, I realized I have a passion for teaching, and knew I would one day like to work with children.

I.C.E. ( Interdisciplinary Cooperative Education) is a program that allowed students to attend school half a day and work in the afternoon. For my I.C.E. job, I

worked for Sonoco Products located in Akron, Indiana. At Sonoco, I did numerous jobs including answering the telephone, filing papers, working on computers, and working with people to solve problems. Working at Sonoco, I learned how to be a problem solver, and how to cooperate with people and their many different attitudes. I also learned how to manage my time between work, school, and other activities. Not only did I learn a lot, I also enjoyed working for Sonoco Products.

Outside of school, I participated in dance and gymnastics. I also started playing the violin at age eight and continue to play occasionally. I was a ten year 4H member. Throughout my ten years of 4H, I was a member of the sheep, swine, beef, dog, and scrap booking clubs. During my tenth year of 4H, I participated in the Miss Fulton County Queen Pageant.

Not only did I attend Athens United Methodist Church, I was also a member of the youth group, a Bible School instructor, and I helped in the nursery. Over the years I have participated in the church Christmas plays. I have enjoyed my time at Athens United Methodist Church, and will continue to attend church as long as I live. God has given so much to me, and I know it I will continue to serve him all of my remaining days. The many activities that I have participated in throughout my life, have helped make me who I am today. Each activity has lead me down new paths and provided me with memories and lessons I will never forget.

Throughout my life, I have been blessed in so many ways. I have a wonderful life, family and friends, which I thank God for giving me. I have been through times in which my faith has been tested. On July 11, 2003, one of my classmates, Cody Jewell, was killed while riding his moped. My senior year of high school, Cody's best friend was also

killed in an automobile accident. These horrible incidents not only had a great affect on the community and people around me, they also had a great affect on who I am today. By seeing first hand how quickly a life can be taken away, I have learned to never take anything for granted. I look at everyday as if it could be my last and thank God for every day he has given to me.

I am currently a first year student at Manchester College. I chose Manchester College because I wanted to attend a small college in a friendly community. I also chose Manchester College because I wanted to remain close to my family and friends. I plan on graduating from Manchester College in 2011 with a bachelor's degree in Education. While I complete my four years of college education, I plan on participating in many clubs and activities. I am currently participating in the Indiana Reading Core Program which allows me to have first hand experience while reading to young children. I am also a member of the Indiana Student Education Association, and a Varsity Cheerleader. I look forward to my years here at Manchester College and hope to make the most of them.

Through good times and bad, my friends and family have been right there by my side. I know that I have been blessed in countless ways, and hope that the rest of my life is as wonderful as it has been over the years. I have taken my past experiences and have learned from each of them. I have decided to live my life to the fullest, and take nothing for granted. I also hope that I will have a successful career, attain a teaching position, and further my education by receiving a master's degree in education. I look forward to the years to come, and know I have much more wonderful experiences waiting for me.