

“My Life”

By: Cortney Jones

Mrs. Eastman

September 20, 2007

Autobiography

Abstract: This paper will cover my life from my birth until now. It will cover my struggles, victories, my family life, my schooling, and activities in my life. It will also include my life in Manchester so far and what is to come for me in the future.

Weighing in at an even 9 pounds and 20 ½ inches long is Cortney Hope Jones and she is the daughter of Kevin Paul Jones and Jill Shawn Jones. Cortney was born on August 02, 1987 in Kendallville, Indiana at Parkview Hospital. She has an older brother named Nathan Paul Jones, a younger brother named Clayton Reed Jones, and a younger sister named Holly Abigail Jones.

Growing up in a family of four children was one of the greatest parts about growing up because I always had someone to play with and we could always find things to do together. I am from a large family anyway with my mom having five brothers and four sisters, so I had tons of cousins along with my siblings. We are a very close family and we do everything together and are always having family gatherings. I can remember that for one Christmas my whole family went up to Wisconsin to stay at my cousin's house for the holiday. It was so much fun! On Christmas Day we all woke up and there were tons of presents under the tree from having so many people staying there. It was a very memorable moment because we all got to be together for a very important holiday with each other and it is memories like that that will last forever as you grow up.

My life growing up was one of the best because my parents worked very hard to support our family and we didn't go without anything because my parents wanted us to have a better life than what they had growing up. My parents instilled in us the importance of your family and how they are the foundation that keep you together and make up who we are to become. My parents always made sure that we did things together as a family. We always tried to eat a sit down dinner together as family a couple of times a week and to also watch a movie together or play a game. My parents were also very big on family vacations. We always went somewhere for vacation in the

summer whether it was a big vacation to Florida or a small trip for the weekend to camp. I have been so many places all over the United States and have seen so many things that a lot of people don't get to do. My parents wanted me to be able to remember those memories and possibly do the same with my family.

Along with the importance of family I was also very big into activities whether it was playing sports, volunteering, or being in clubs for schools. Growing up I played a lot of sports. I played soccer, basketball, baseball, softball, golf, and volleyball. I would play any sport that I could get my hands on because I loved the people I was around and it helped me to learn life skills that I could use for the rest of my life. Along with sports I did some volunteer work for our local community. Two volunteer projects that I did every year were the Basket Brigade and Toys For Tots. I loved being a part of these projects and getting to help families in need around the holidays. I was really big into clubs also. I was a ten year member of my 4-H club; I was a part of SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions), and Sports Council.

School is also a very important part of my life. All through elementary, middle, and high school I was almost always on the honor roll. I always thought that my studies were very important in my life because some day my grades were going to get me where I need to go. In high school I graduated with Academic Honors which I was very proud of because I worked very hard to keep a "B" average GPA. I am very proud of myself for working hard in school to get good grades because I am now in a very good college working on my degree to become a teacher.

Over the years I have gone through some struggles and victories. I am a very dedicated person when it comes to my passions. Some struggles that I have gone

through over the years are doing well in school and getting the grades that I want. This was a struggle for me because I want to be good in everything that I do and sometimes I am harder on myself than my parents. I, also, am very passionate about sports and I want to be the best at every sport that I do. In high school I went through a period of struggling at batting during my softball season. I stayed after practice for weeks working on my swing to help improve it anyway that I could. All my hard work paid off because I was selected First Team All Conference for batting that year. Another struggle I went through was the death of a friend of the family going into my freshman year of college. He died from his liver shutting down after a bone marrow transplant. It was a very difficult time because I was trying to get used to the college life and nothing was going right, but my family and friends help to get me through it all.

As for victories I have achieved a lot from sports to school. With sports I went to the World Series for softball when I was going into my junior year of high school. It was a very good achievement for my team and me because we were worked hard all summer to earn a sport to go to the World Series. Another victory was getting my Academic Honors diploma when I graduated. This was probably my greatest achievement because I worked the hardest on this to earn my diploma that I wanted. In high school I also received a number of different awards for sports and I am very proud of all of them. Playing three sports in high school and going to school is very hard and I made sure that I was always giving 110% at each practice to be the best.

Everything that I have gone through so far has basically brought me to the point that I am in my life right now which is being in college. I originally started attending college at IPFW in Ft. Wayne, Indiana because I didn't know what I wanted to do. After

going to school for about a year there I decided that teaching was the right field for me. The field of teaching that I wanted was Physical Education and Adapted P.E. I thought since I love to play sports and I love children then why not teach children about sports and being healthy. Right when I found out what I wanted to do with the rest of my life I started looking for schools in Indiana and came across Manchester. It was exactly what I was seeking for. Manchester offered my major, it was close to home, and it was a very small school. After being in Manchester for about a month I absolutely love it. I feel right at home and I love the small town atmosphere that goes along with it. I feel I am getting more out of my classes because they are very small and I feel I get to know the students outside of the classroom. Manchester was the right choice for me I have concluded and I can't wait to see what the future brings for me!