

## You Are the Change

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There once was a little girl that entered a classroom in the first grade. This little girl was apprehensive walking in with her father that morning so many years ago. When the door opened and that voice that was so happy and joyful greeted her, the little girl's entire world changed. That little girl was me and that special lady was my first grade teacher, Mrs. Debbie Killion. Mrs. Killion is such a special person in so many lives. She creates bonds with her children. She is the reason I want to become a teacher. I want to make a difference in someone's life. Mrs. Killion treated me like I was special. The only other people that ever treated me this way were my family. So you know how it feels to be special to someone that isn't a member of your family? It's great!

There are other reasons this teacher makes differences in lives. You see, Mrs. Killion has made a difference in the life of my little brother too. Circumstances that have been beyond my brother's control have prevented his days at school from being like everyone else. Because of this, Mrs. Killion became a huge support to him. She was also a big support to my Mother and Father.

Teachers aren't normally the type of people that reach out to families outside of the classroom. Mrs. Killion is. This sets her above the rest. Her day doesn't end when the school is locked and she goes home. Her day doesn't begin when she walks into the classroom either. You can tell this in the faces of the children she teaches.

Her class was always fun and you didn't realize you were actually learning anything. All that mattered to me as a first grade student was that I was having fun with someone that loved me and my friends. You can also tell this in the way I feel about school. It is because of this teacher that I feel confident to write stories and use my imagination. It is because of this teacher that I have the fearlessness to stand in front of a classroom filled with my peers and read or explain or answer questions. I only wish that everyone had the opportunity to have a teacher like Mrs. Killion teach them in first grade too. It might have made a difference to them and the turns they have taken in their lives.