

Sister Madeline Hanson, SSND - 70 Year Jubilee!



I Loved Every Minute!

I was born on November 2, 1932, into a family of four children, including one girl and three boys. Another girl and boy would be born to Mary Grace and Joseph Hanson over the following years.

I attended a public one-room schoolhouse where all children in every grade were seated.

When I was in 7th Grade my aunt Madeline, herself an SSND, was home for her parents' 50th anniversary. I watched her outside, walking while she was praying. When I saw that, I wanted to be just like her. This was my answer from God.

After graduating from 8th Grade, I began training as a Sister at Holy Angels Academy. In 1953, I was professed as a School Sister of Notre Dame.

I taught and served as principal in many different schools before retiring in 2018. I met all types of children from all types of backgrounds, from the "Well to Do" to the poor. One of my students was so poor that I fed him every morning. I also gave clothes to parents for their children.

They were all precious.

Two stories stand out from my career as principal.

One day I visited the Computer Room, where the preschoolers were being taught. One little girl kept shaking her finger at the

computer. I watched her, curious. She looked at me and said, "You don't know what I am doing, do you?" I said, "No, I don't." She put up her first finger again and said, "Watch me." I watched her shake her finger. She looked at me when she finished and said, "Do you get it?" Shaking her finger at me she said, "Don't forget it!" I left the room immediately because I could not hold my laughter any longer. It was precious!

The other story happened when I heard two kindergarten boys outside my office. One of them fell, so I rushed out. The first boy said, "I had my name on my shirt and it fell off. Then he picked it up." I said, "That was so kind of him." He responded, "He didn't give it back to me, he kept it, so I decked him and he fell."

I said, "Boys, come into my office and think about what you did." We sat down and I said to the one who hit the other one, "Do you think Jesus would do something like that when he was in Kindergarten?" The child didn't miss a beat. "I don't know," he said. "I didn't go to Kindergarten with Jesus."

I loved every minute!