

Dear Marion,

When I initially found out I was going to have the honour of meeting a Holocaust survivor I could not believe it. Throughout my life, I have always had a passion to learn about World War II and the Holocaust and one of my favourite books growing up was, *The Diary of Anne Frank*. I find it fascinating how people are able to find determination and persistence to survive through even the toughest of circumstances. Meeting you was not only an incredible honour for me, but it was life changing. In the small amount of time that I was able to learn about your experience, you had an incredible impact on me. Not only will I teach the lessons you preached in my classroom, but I will also carry on your legacy and tell your story to my students. Interestingly, what touched me most about your story did not have to do with your experience during the war. When you went back to Germany and spoke with the high school students, you were able to take all of your horrible experiences from the war, yet not let those experiences effect the relationship you were creating with those students. You were able to show them how to forgive and this was incredibly inspiring to me.

As a teacher, I will have a very strong influence on my students and the coming generations and I take this job very seriously. I want to be able to not only teach my students different subjects, but more importantly, teach them how to be kind and honest human beings. When I listened to your story I was deeply affected. You inspire me to be the best teacher I can possibly be and in my opinion, you are a true teacher. The honesty and kindness you project is not only inspiring, but contagious as well. I must admit, throughout our afternoon together I was very emotional. I cried a lot and not necessarily just because your story was sad, but also because I was so honoured to have met such an amazing, incredible, human being. You have such a kind heart and I really do thank you for giving me the opportunity to meet you and hear your story.

As you finished your presentation to us, you said that the most important thing we could do as teachers was teach our students how to treat one another with respect. I am going to spend every second in my classroom not only showing my students the importance of loving and respecting each other, but also the repercussions of their actions if they don't do this. I am going to educate them on events and situations that have occurred in the past and also the present (such as the Holocaust), so that they realize what happens when people fail to treat each other as equals. I feel like this is what I need to do to honour you and all of the work you have done around the world. Once again I thank you from the bottom of my heart. Meeting you has forever changed my life and I will never forget you.

Sincerely,

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