

<b>Storyteller:</b>	Cramer, Kathleen	<b>Interviewer:</b>	Hogan, Maureen A.
<b>Date:</b>	June 11, 2006	<b>Original StoryCorps Log Files:</b>	MBX001456_L1 MBX001456_L2

**Timecode Notes**

0:45	Being oldest sibling, I had to tell other siblings what to do; earliest memory of M.
1:45	M – I had speech impediment and K was only who understood me; you were always able to interpret me.
3:00	K- I always knew I wanted to be a teacher – women could only be a teacher or a nurse. If I had to do a different career, I'd do science research.
3:45	Teaching kids science – all areas of science: telling them about scientists as people, humanizing them.
6:30	Didn't like grade school, did like college; favorite teacher Ms. Mellucci – she humanized material.
7:20	Their parent's influence on choice of teaching career – teaching is like sales, keeping kid's attention.
9:00	Different kids have different interests – young kids easy to interest, teens are happy to be indifferent.
9:45	Started college at 17, teaching a class at age 18, 3 <sup>rd</sup> graders – baptism by fire.
11:15	Teaching made me more responsible.
12:15	I chose elementary school out of fear – young kids easier.
13:00	Discipline great, even though you're petite.
14:40	After 15 years, I realized I was teaching, no playing at teaching – knew how to teach, responsibility to parents, content.
15:45	Keeping material fresh, you have to enjoy what you are doing.
17:15	If I don't know an answer, I'll tell the kid.
18:15	Just four years in public school – lots of fighting, I didn't think I could survive. I moved to St. Mary's.
19:20	Being a teacher and a parent at same time – very similar, hard.
20:40	Teachers and parents need to back each other up; parents can view teachers as an enemy. They don't see child as an individual but as an extension of themselves.
22:00	Kids changing over the years – don't want to reach on their own, don't socialize well, too much instant gratification, sense of entitlement, lack of imagination.
25:00	How server illness affected my perspective – I realized I needed time for myself.
26:00	Favorite student – Melvin A. – strange name, bad speech impediment.
27:45	Best memory – students nominating you for an award, realizing you deserve to be thanked.
29:00	First time a student died – reminded me of Chekhov story <u>Misery</u> ; student at St. Luke's died of AIDS. I shook his hand although I was a little scared.
31:00	Teaching children of kids you taught earlier – apple doesn't fall far

32:00	Advice: teaching is harder than most people think, no substitute for preparation, keep parents in the loop – introduce yourself at start of year.
33:30	I want to be remembered as fair teacher, treated kids equally.
34:30	Teaching has increased my desire to learn; I retired because I couldn't be the kind of teach I wanted to be.
36:00	I'm inspired by idea of social capital.