



The Man with a Huge Heart

By: Katie Kelley

There are many people that come in and out of your life. The people who most impact your life are people you are around a lot. Considering teenagers are at school most of the time, teachers make a major impact on their life. When I think of what teacher has most impacted my life, many names come to mind. Over the years I have been blessed to have had so many wonderful teachers. But one name stands out in my mind the most. And his name is John Carey.

So who is John Carey? I met this man the very first day of my freshman year. As I walked into the monstrous halls of the new school, I was scared to death, had no idea what to do, could barely see down the halls for the upper classmen were standing every where, and barely knew any of the smiling faces that were soon to be my new teachers. On the first day of school during 6th period, I walked into the gym to meet my new physical education teacher. His name was Coach Carey. Little did I know that this man would make an everlasting impression on my life.

Coach Carey is one of the greatest guys I know. He made everything about my freshman year physical education and health class unforgettable. We started off the year playing dodge ball, kickball, volleyball, and many other activities that included some sort of interactions with my classmates. We even had a kickball tournament, which everyone in the class enjoyed because we were all so competitive. All of my friends were in my class so that made everything a whole lot more fun. On the days when we were supposed to be having "health" class, he would always think of an activity to make the learning part of his class fun.

Instead of making us do boring work out of the book, Coach Carey would put together slideshows on the computer. Coach Carey was always trying to make somebody laugh. Between the games of tape ball and learning about The 6 Fold Path to Excellence Coach Carey made my freshman year unforgettable.

My sophomore year I was lucky enough to have Coach Carey again in class. This time I was in Advanced Physical Education. This class was a lot more serious than his class I had taken the year before, but he still found ways to make this class just as fun. Coach Carey is the one who taught me how to lift weights. Before his class I had lifted weights my 8th grade and freshman year, but I did not really know what I was doing. As the year went on I got stronger and better at the sports I was playing. My sophomore year was the first year I really started getting playing time in sports. I play basketball and volleyball, and started for both at some point in time my sophomore year. I would give a lot of credit to this Coach Carey for helping me out in sports. He is one of the reasons I am as strong as I am today, which makes me a better athlete.

Sadly, my junior year I was not privileged enough to have Coach Carey as my Advanced Physical Education teacher again. Not only being a great teacher, there is another aspect of my life that Coach Carey has so greatly influenced. Besides being a Physical Education teacher, Coach Carey is one of our Fellowship of Christian Athletes leaders. We meet every Wednesday morning to talk about God. He always has a very inspirational message to share. Whether it is about his life or a current event going on at school, he always tries to make his message relevant to our lives. Coach Carey always seems to be able to get through to students the importance of living a spiritual life. This is another one of the great qualities Coach Carey has.

Being a teacher is not the only thing Coach Carey has given to this community. He participates in many local fundraisers and events every year. He was very close to a former teacher Mrs. Denning. In her honor he started a fundraiser to help raise money for a scholarship. He also oversees the mud volleyball tournament that is held every year at our school. This also goes towards scholarships. Coach Carey has truly inspired me to be a better person. He reveals his kind nature by the love he shows to each and every one of his students. Coach Carey is an amazing man whom I truly admire and could go to with any of my problems.



Katie Kelley and Coach John Carey