

I Did It

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My choice of becoming a teacher began 1944 when I finished eighth grade in a country school. I needed to go to high school, and Dad agreed but . . . I must take teacher training. Okay, I knew I wanted to go to high school, I was fortunate because my friends chose not to go.

I had my first job in the fall of 1948 and went through the '49 blizzard at a country school, 7 students and a lot of snow.

I am proud to say that some of my former students have become successful teachers. It is a great feeling to have them come up to me and recognize me. They have a variety of jobs in Rapid City.

What a change to go through General Beadle super school from the one room school of my elementary education. Our library was the boxes of books we received from the State Library every 3 months.

When I graduated from eighth grade in a farming community, I chose to go to high school because I hoped to work as a teacher.

My dad and mom let me know that I would become a teacher. It was my way to get to high school so okay. Best choice I ever was forced to make.

I graduated at 17 years old ready to apply to my first school board. My high school gave me two years of normal training and a certificate from the county that said I was a qualified teacher in my county school. I went through the '49 blizzard 5 ½ miles from home. It was called out west, so I had to check for rattlesnakes under the porch every morning and then in the outhouse. Everyone up there knew about rattlesnakes. I didn't.

The first summer after that 1949 I began college as a student of elementary education Wayne State Teacher toward a degree allowing me to teach K-8 in TOWN. In 1972 I had my Master's Degree from USD.

Sixty years later I have had some many experiences in teaching and I realize how wise my parents were.

I have had several of my students become teachers. I have had successful teachers do their student teaching under my leadership.

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