

A FAME tribute to Tanya Robbins

By Ashley Phillips of Tates Creek High School

Loving, kind, gentle and caring were the words that came to mind when I first met you. I never would have expected these characteristics from my sixth-grade teacher. Instead, I expected a harsh, more straightforward teacher – a teacher who saw me to be immature and not ready for middle school. You are different from other teachers.

You reach out to your students as well as embrace them because you care. For students like me, that means a lot. Some students live in difficult homes or even have rough lives, and for us, the only love, the only support we have, is from our teachers. It is teachers like you who have given students like me the motivation to come to school each day. Through all of my hurt and pain, my parents weren't there for me. Instead, what my parents lacked to give me, I found in you. In you I found love, I found trust and even support. It's because of you that I knew I would make it.

Without any doubt I know you have made the greatest difference in my life. You have always encouraged me and have given me the mindset that I can be anything I want to be. Having such a special teacher in my life means the entire world to me. You have impacted me and helped me become a better student. The support plus love you show me has made a big difference in my life. When I need someone to talk to, you are there for me; whatever the situation may be, I know I can count on you to be there. Once I graduate from high school, my desire is to become a teacher. I want to become a teacher for many reasons; the main reason is because I want to be the teacher who makes a difference in students lives, like you have made in my own life. You have

always told me I would succeed in life, and I believed you. You helped me focus on the positive aspects in my life. I thank you for giving me a chance and believing in me; because of you, I believe in myself. I have been successful in school, and I'm heading in the direction of being successful in life, and I owe this all to you. You have helped me become a strong person, and I've grown into the beautiful young lady you always told me I would be. I thank you so much for everything in life you have taught me – the exceptional advice, and most of all, you have given me a reason to smile.

I love you,

Ashley