

SPECIAL MOM NOMINATION FROM



CHARYL STOCKWELL, AGE 11 – May, 1997

My mom, Shelley Stockwell is a special mother. I say this because of all the special times she has spent with me and all the things she has given up to give me all the attention she can. I was diagnosed with a brain tumor five years ago. Before we found out what was wrong with me, my mom took me to many doctors. She kept insisting I wasn't bad, but was sick. I was seven years old when the doctors finally found out I had a tumor. I had five operations in six months and my mom was always there in my room with me. She slept in chairs and on benches and fought with the nurses and the doctors when they wanted her to leave. My mom never left me. I still have operations and MRIs every year. I don't know how I would do it without her there to hold my hand and keep me company.

My mom works hard too. Up until last June she was a school principal. She left work for six months when I got sick, but she had to go back to work to pay the bills. She wanted to stay home with me but she had a better job than my dad did, so he took me to work with him (he was a principal too) and then quit his job to stay home with me. While he was home he started a new school here in Livingston County for me. He could not have done that without my mom working all the time. And my mom helped him figure out how the new school would work best.

Last June my mom decided to quit her job so she could be close to me when I was a teenager. I still have learning problems and she helps me every day to get my lessons right and work on my fears. Last June I got to the farewell party her school gave for her. I stood on stage with her and talked to the people. There were hundreds of children and parents from the school. She had been the principal there for 10 years. They were crying and hugging her. I could tell how much they loved her. But she gave that up to be with me.

My mom works part time at my dad's school now doing individual plans for children with learning problems, but mostly she takes care of my dad and me. That's another thing. She loves my dad. That makes me feel good because I know the two most important people in my life will be there for me. So please let other people know what a great mom she is. I know it already.