

A Dedicated Soul

My mom has had so many challenges that have been dealt out to her. Instead of sitting down and crying about how bad life is, she deals with the hardships and moves on with her life. She has an inner feeling that tells her to pick up the challenge and run full speed to the goal line. Watching how she lived helped me to see how important dedication is. When I was growing up, she was my east and my west, my compass. Her very dedication to me as her daughter helped me to set the laws and standards of my life. One of those laws is dedication—especially to friendship, family, and school.

My dedication to my job at Wendy's Restaurant helps me build a strong reputation. My future employers will know that I am a strong and dependable worker and my current employers will give me excellent referrals and respect on the job site. I have learned strong work ethics and a realization that sometimes it is necessary to work your way up—bottom to top. There are days when the last thing that I want to do is go to work. At those times, I remember when my mom would go to her job even though she was in pain with her illnesses. It is at those times when I get up off the couch and put on my uniform, get in my car, and go to work to make the most of my day. It is because of her example that I even went to work at all.

Dedication to school is something my parents instilled in me from day one. It was never a question of "Will you go to school today?" it was, "How well will you do and what goals will you accomplish today?" My parents said, "Go to college. It will help to redirect your small hopes and make them reachable goals." They would never want me to skip a class because it is too complicated or because of an argument with a classmate or teacher. They would never want to see their daughter be less than what they expected simply because it was not "easy". I show up at school and do my best. My parents do not have to say those things anymore because they helped me understand it deep down inside.

My family and friends are my whole world. If they are having a rough time, I will stand beside them and be their advocate. I will always be dedicated because I need people to be there for *me*. The devoted relationships I have with my family and friends are what make life worth living. Words are not necessary—just their devoted presence.

I know that life can be hard and challenging for me. I do not plan to sit and complain about it though. I want to get up, move forward and become *more* than what people expect of me. Dedication is the law by which I want to live my life.