



Thank You Teachers  
By Gary Greene  
August 2016

Have you ever noticed how the smallest, seemingly inconsequential events can change your life? My life is sprinkled with many seemingly inconsequential events, most beyond my control, that have changed my life. One such event occurred when I was a 15 year old high school sophomore.

In that year through what I now see as God's providence I became a student of Bruce Snyder and the course of my life changed forever. Coach Snyder had a passion for his family, teaching, football - and he had a love of economics. He challenged all of his students with rigorous standards of academic excellence and respect. His classes were academically challenging and he was a tough disciplinarian assigning lengthy write offs for minimal infractions (10 seconds late to class would cost you 30 - 45 minutes in write offs). Even with these difficult standards many students, me included, seized the opportunity to take every class he taught because his passion was inspiring.

It was his economics class that set the course of my life. His passion for teaching and love of economics lifted the "dismal science" out of opaque shadows and brought into full view and understanding for me and countless other students. He moved us beyond the esoteric study of complicated tables and charts, statistics and numbers, and into the study of human behavior and the endeavor to fulfill needs and wants with limited resources.

An exceptional high school teacher planted a seed and inspired me to pursue not only an education in economics, but a career as well. I lost touch with Coach Snyder years ago, but his impact continues to be felt well beyond that high school class from 1983. Every day, I am privileged to be part of this virtuous circle where his shared knowledge passes through me to impact the companies, non-profits and families that are my clients.

In my home town, Franklin, TN teachers are back at work educating and inspiring future generations. These teachers are planting seeds that will change lives but most teachers never witness the full impact of their hard work. So, to Coach Snyder, all the Williamson County faculty and staff, and teachers everywhere. THANK YOU and God bless you all.