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Ray City School

Handwritten note by Eloise Johnson

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Ray City School

My! I thought, "Why did I let Edith Peters talk me into writing this?" Then I thought, after spending 36 years in the classrooms of Ray City School, I should count it a privilege to let the world know how I and many others feel about the time we spent here.

Ray City School was just home to me. Rain or shine, sick or well, I felt that I had to be there. If I was sick, my family would say that I needed to stay home, but my reply was, "No, it is my job and I need to be there."

There was something about Ray City School that all of us teachers and students loved, and loved each other. This has been ^{made} so plain to me since I retired. When we see each other, especially after a long absence, it is like a new breath of life. I tell those whom I have taught that I feel that they partially belong to me. On Sunday morning in church, I look over the congregation and count those that are mine and hope that I have had some influence in their lives.

So _____ when they decided to close Ray City School, I felt they were taking away part of my life, and I know they were taking a big part of the life of our community. It is still felt.

There is evidence that some good things have come out of Ray City — doctors, nurses, lawyers and a Judge, teachers, preachers, successful farmers, businesses and occupations, well filled. Many of our students have done exceedingly well in high school and college.

I am glad when listening to TV and radio and reading newspapers and magazines that the trend today is back to the smaller schools, where a child can get individual attention, and can be known as a person, not just someone filling a seat.

So when you think about Ray City School, think about the love and friendship and memories of all who have been here.

signed,

Cloise Johnson