

December 3, 2007



Dear Hannah,

Thank you so very much for the invitation to your book launch and for the copy of Ruby's Hope. I can't tell you how thrilled I was to receive it and how extremely honoured I am to be Mrs. Hilderbug! The note you wrote me touched my heart, and when I finally finished crying my husband said "You've got to be there!" I was so excited that it worked out for me to come! It was so good to see you and your amazing family! I wish that I could be there for all your speeches, fundraisers and award presentations. Know that I am always with you in spirit and in my heart!

Your mom often speaks of our little lunch meeting and how I agreed to help you with your plan to hopefully make a difference in the lives of the hungry and homeless. I want you to know that not only did that lunch meeting have an impact on the path your life was to take, but you had a great impact on my life. You gave me a gift that day that I want you to know about.

You see, I always knew from the time I was little that I wanted to be a teacher. And in being a teacher, we all hope and dream and strive to make a difference, however big or small, in the lives of our students. The thrill of helping someone to read and write is such a gift to me, but to help someone help a multitude of others is the biggest gift of all! You gave that to me Hannah, and continue to give that to me, every time you speak on behalf of the homeless, with every award you receive to help the cause, and with every heart you touch. I am so blessed and honoured to have been a small part of what has blossomed into an outpouring of so much love, compassion and caring for fellow human beings. The love, caring and compassion you have for the hungry and homeless is boundless. I believe, that with your beautiful heart and passion, you would have found a way to make a difference anyway.

I'm just so blessed to have been your Grade One teacher and to have been the one who had a lunch meeting with you! You made my passion for teaching so meaningful! You are an extraordinary person! I couldn't be more proud of who you are and all you have done!

Hugs and Ladybugs always!

Love Mrs. Hilderbug

