

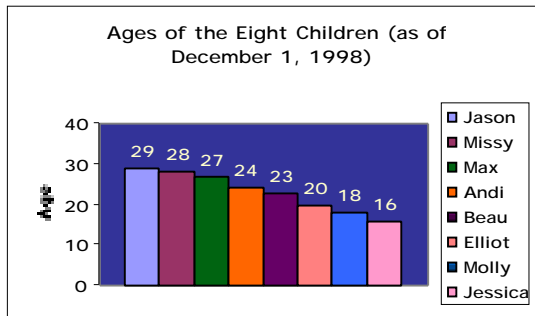
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# Why Molly Person is the Way She Is

## Family

### *Family Beginnings*

My parents were married in 1967. My mother was a member at the time and my father, through my mother, began investigating the church and joined a few years later. My oldest brother was born in 1969. I was born eleven years later on



July 17, 1980 after three more brothers and two



sisters were born. I became the seventh child out of eight when my younger sister was born in 1982.

### *Growing Up*

My parents raised the younger of us a lot more leniently than they did with the older of my siblings, which often made my older siblings upset by how much we got away with. It was always a zoo in my house with the massive amounts of people running in and out of the house, some that were related to us, some that weren't, and the huge number and array of pets we always had.

It seemed like we never talked much to each other. When we did have conversations, they usually consisted of mean remarks, teasing and a spouting off of lines from various movies that could make a full conversation and make complete sense to those involved in the conversation but anybody listening would be completely lost, or would be completely put off by how rude we are to each other and would leave. Of course, if you can't take a joke, or laugh at yourself, you could never survive in my family.

## ***All Grown Up***

It is amazing how all eight of us can be so much alike, but so different.



All of the characteristics we have picked up from our childhood just kind of stuck with us and link us all together, although some may be a little more eccentric than the rest, we all essentially act the same. To fully create our individual personalities, just mix in our talents and interests and you get who we really are. We are all interested in different

activities and hobbies that make each of us so different than another.

## **School**

### ***Elementary (K-6)***

Elementary school is where I did most of my physical growing. Those were good years and had only taught me what I needed to, to advance in school, but not life. I think that the best thing that I took out of elementary school was what I learned in my music class I had once a week, and my extracurricular music classes. I still remember, to this day, a lot of the techniques and strategies of music she taught me. I am so thankful to here, her knowledge that she gave me, and her willingness to teach it.



### ***Middle School (7-8)***

Middle school was the two most horrible years in my life. I was tortured, tease and ridiculed immensely. If I could go back and erase any two years in my life, it would be these two. I am honestly thankful for these years I was so unhappy though. They forced me to decide where I wanted to stand in life and how I wanted to be, and I also gained a lot of compassion towards those people that were in my same situation.

## **High School (9-12)**

In my four years of high school, I did the most growing mentally and spiritually. Thought the first half of my ninth grade year, I was not tortured as much as I had been in middle school, but I was still lying in the cracks. I hadn't quite found my niche in "society" (according to high school anyway) yet. In the second semester of ninth grade, I found my niche with some upperclassmen that accepted me with open arms. I

my time hanging out they graduated, I what I was going to had been following, moved on and now I become a leader. I conform to any was kind of sick of it. what I was going to myself to evaluate who I had become years of my life. I had joy in making people



changed a lot during with them. When didn't quite know do. The people I more of less had would have to didn't want to groups anymore, I I had to figure out do, so I forced who I really was and over the past 16 always found great laugh, so I made a

personal goal to seek out anyone who might be feeling kind of down, or like the didn't belong, someone who reminded me of me when I was in middle school. I hated feeling worthless and like nobody cared about me, and I didn't want anyone to go through what I went through. I was more out going to everyone and generally more loving and nurturing to others. So that's what I did during the next two years. I did all I could to lose myself in service towards others and that's what really taught me the most. It's amazing what you can learn when you just listen to other people and open your heart to them. I am so thankful for those wonderful years in high school.

## **College**

Now, in stead of being the leader, I'm a follower again. I try to be a leader and an example to others as much as I can, but I don't forget to just listen and learn every once in a while. Although I've only been in college for 3 months, I've learned a great deal and know that I have a lot more to learn. Not only in school, but also in life.



## Future Plans

Those years I spent in high school, I really discovered my passion for music. I had been playing the piano since I was four years old, but never had fully grasped the concepts and technicalities of music, and I was good at it. I think having a lot of musical background is what made me so good in high school, which I guess is why I loved it so much. I ate up everything my choral director taught me. She was my biggest help in high school. She was a wonderful teacher, and a wonderful confidant. She is truly the reason why I've decided to follow in her footsteps and become a choral director. I'm planning on getting my bachelor's degree here at Southern Virginia College and majoring in music. I have so many ideas and concepts for teaching music floating around in my head that I just need to get out and put to use.