

Jane Robinson

Class of 1976

As a Jackson native I am proud to call this community home. When I enrolled in Jackson College I was a single mom just hired by the Department of Corrections as a Corrections Officer. I began taking one evening class every semester just as I was assigned to the Cotton Correctional Facility. Knowing that I was pursuing my education gave me hope and the assurance that I could be promoted and have new opportunities in this new career. As soon as I completed my Jackson College Associate degree that promotion was offered and I began work as an Assistant Unit Resident Supervisor within the prison.



What I really discovered at Jackson College was that I loved learning and the classroom environment. I continued on with my education and within weeks of graduating with a bachelor's degree I transferred to the "field" as a Michigan Department of Corrections felony probation/parole officer. The skills I learned in writing and communication were vital not only to these positions but to the jobs I later enjoyed as an Arts Director, Fundraiser and Executive Director. The benefits of my education have since continued on long after I donned my cap and gown at Jackson College.

It still amazes me how the single step of signing up for one evening class at Jackson College has altered my life in immeasurable ways. Both my mother and father died during that first semester but I know that they would be so proud knowing I persevered and reached my goals and dreams.

I continue to love living in Jackson, serving my community through my work at the Reading Writing Connection, being involved with the local art scene and having life-long friends and family nearby. My husband Steve moved to Jackson almost thirty years ago and calls Jackson home too. We enjoy time with our family, golfing, gardening and taking our newly adopted dog, Grizzly, for walks on the Falling Waters Trail.