

Super Mom Jessica Wright

Jessica Wright with her children,
Savannah, age 9, and Clayton, age 13

This Katy mom juggles being a single mother of two, teaching, volunteering, and championing a positive attitude, even on days when she cannot move due to a debilitating illness



Written by Jessica Wright | Photography by Sara Isola



Jessica Wright is a single mom who does it all with a smile, even amid weekly iron infusions, multiple hospitalizations, and days when she literally cannot walk due to a rare and debilitating form of arthritis called undifferentiated spondyloarthritis. While it may slow her down, it never stops her from putting her kids - Clayton, Savannah, and 150 ninth-graders at West Memorial Junior High School - first.

Do you know a Katy Super Mom?
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On Being "Super Mom"

I don't really think I do anything more than other moms do. I try to stay positive and "just do it." I believe that you finally know what unconditional love is when you have kids - you put their needs above your own. I have been very fortunate. Even though I'm a single mom, I have my own mother to help me with my kids and to be an example for me on how to live my life to be the best mom I can be.

150 Kids and Counting

People are always surprised when I tell them I have 150 children, but I consider all of my students like my own children. I'm everyone's mom. My kids and my students all deserve 100% of me, and that's what I try to give them. I do my best to be a positive mentor and guide throughout their lives, not just while they are in my classroom. I still keep in touch with many of my former students and love seeing where their lives have taken them. It makes me proud to see them doing great things.

Staying Strong

Juggling sports, school events, church events, work, fun activities, and getting to and from multiple doctor appointments is my biggest challenge as a mom. I may have a bad day

[from the disease], but I can't let that take away from my kids. I don't want them to ever worry about me. They should be carefree kids! I refuse to let this illness slow me down. I am always available to my children, even when I can barely move. They know they can always come to me.

Family Values

God comes first in our lives, and my children are taught to have very strong morals. As they are getting older, I emphasize choosing the right friends and not following the crowd. I want them to always be strong in their faith and know right from wrong. I think my greatest "mom victory" so far is raising two very Christ-centered, honest, loving children. They are children of integrity, and they are good friends to others.

Advice for Other Parents

Children grow up so fast, and you want to be remembered as the parent who spent time with your child, showed up at their soccer games, went to their school events, and took the time to show them they are a priority to you each and every day, even if it means getting out of your comfort zone. Don't let work or illness take away from what is truly important. **KM**