

## Art on a Rented Typewriter

When Debbie Macomber decided to pursue her dream of becoming a writer, she rented a typewriter, put it on the kitchen table and began typing each morning before the kids went to school.

When the children came home, she moved the typewriter and made them dinner. When they went to bed, she moved it back and typed some more. For 2½ years, Macomber followed this routine. Supermom had become a struggling writer, and she was loving every minute of it.



One night, however, her husband, Wayne, sat her down and said, “Honey, I’m sorry, but you’re not bringing in any income. We can’t do this anymore. We can’t survive on just what I make.”

That night, her heart broken and her mind too busy to let her sleep, she stared at the ceiling in their darkened bedroom. Macomber knew – with all of the responsibilities of keeping up a house and taking four kids to sports, church and scouts – that working 40 hours a week would leave her no time to write.

Sensing her despair, her husband woke up and asked, “What’s wrong?”

“I really think I could’ve made it as a writer; I really do,” she answered.

Wayne was silent for a long time. Then he sat up, turned on light, and said, “All right, honey, go for it.”

So Macomber returned to her dream and her typewriter on the kitchen table, pounding out page after page for another two years. Her family went without vacations, pinched pennies and wore hand-me-downs.

But the sacrifice and the persistence finally paid off. After five years of struggling, Macomber sold her first book. Then another. And another, until finally, presently, Macomber has published more than 100 books, many of which have become *New York Times* best-sellers, and six of which have become made-for-TV movies. Her *Cedar Cove* series of novels was adapted into the television series of the same name. More than 60 million copies of her books are in print, and she has millions of loyal fans.

(more)



And what about Wayne? All that sacrifice in support of his wife paid off handsomely. He got to retire at the age of 50 and now spends his time building an airplane in the basement of their 7,000-square-foot mansion in Port Orchard, Washington.

The Macomber children got a gift far more important than a few summer camps. As adults, they realize what their mother gave them was far more important – permission and encouragement to pursue their own dreams.



As with Macomber, you, too, have been given talents to accomplish great things in the plan God has laid out for your life. Your commitment to serving others in your work in Life Care and Century Park has its own reward, eternal in value.

*As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace (1 Peter 4:10 ESV).*

– Beecher Hunter

