

Teachers...

**You are the molders of their dreams
The gods who build or crush
their young beliefs of right or wrong**

**You are the spark that sets aflame the
poet's hand or lights the flame
of some great singer's song**

**You are the gods of the young, the very young
You are the guardian of a million dreams
Your every smile or frown can heal or pierce a heart**

**Yours are a hundred lives, a thousand lives
Yours the pride of loving them and the sorrow, too**

**Your patient work, your touch, make you the gods of hope
Who fill their souls with dreams
To make those dreams come true**

From the Focus on the Family broadcast "Teacher of the Year" featuring Dr. Guy Doud. President Ronald Reagan read this to Dr. Doud when he received the 1986 National Teacher of the Year for the United States of America. Written by Clark Mollenhoff (deceased). Used with permission.