

About Linda Longshore

Nearly everyone in my family on mothers side is artistically inclined, I was no different and started sketching in my teens. Like most of us I was busy raising my three sons and working. Later, when I became a "single parent" (by the way just what is that, single means ONE!). I needed promotions. I worked for Union Pacific R R's land division so I got my Real Estate License, signed up for law and business classes, and took on an extra part-time job as a leasing agent. It wasn't a piece of cake, as a matter of fact I had to fight tooth and nail, but I became the first and only female land agent in my department (and had to travel). Soon after I accepted a transfer & promotion in Colorado, nine months later another to Texas.



As if that wasn't enough, I married again, soon after his three sons moved in. I was 40 and getting older very fast, I've never seen so many shoes. Oh, did I mention that I developed Stills Arthritis? Through all these years one thing stayed constant, I continued to sketch. As a matter of fact the 2nd day after my hip replacement, I asked my nurse for paper and pencil and between punching that little button for the feel good medicine, you got it, I sketched.

One year later I took a drawing class at TCU and won an award for a five minute sketch. Drawing had become painful due to the bones fusing in my hands and that little award gave me the drive to continue. I took one more drawing class and upon finishing knew I had to find another way to express my love for art.

After being forced to retire I spent three months. in Omaha, Ne. and looked up long-time friend, Dick Mondragon, a local artist and teacher, he introduced me to watercolor. I enrolled at the community college I had attended so many years ago for a watercolor class and painted with my teachers twice a week. Dick devoted a his spare time, gave brutally honest critiques, great demonstrations and made me work while he observed.

When I returned to Texas I took a class with Ann Winchester at TCU and continued to study with her for three years off and on. I joined SWA and attended demonstrations and took Jan Kunz's workshop. April 2009 I entered a juried show at TAG and to my shock won Best of Show and Third Place. Feb. 2008 one of my paintings was selected to be shown in the SWA 28th Juried Show and no I didn't place... but what is that saying? You've come a long way baby! I know now the journey endless, always reaching within and beyond.

I wrote this shortly after discovering watercolor:

I am who I am said Sam to me, but who that is...it cannot be.

Sam was more than he could see, for he was the man God had set free.

I'm honored to be here, at TAG with others that share the wonders of art so graciously.

Linda Longshore

