

JOY GRUENEWALD

BIOGRAPHY: Born in Wichita, Kansas, Joy grew up moving numerous times as the daughter of an Air Force pilot. Her experiences of Japan are the most cherished memories of her teen years, as well as the most influential in expanding her cultural awareness and shaping her world view.

After being a mother and secretary, she returned to school and received a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and a Master of Social Work from the University of Washington in Seattle. She retired following 20 years as a Home Health Medical Social Worker. Joy moved to Spokane, Washington in 2000 to be near her daughter's family.



ARTIST STATEMENT: I am a watercolor artist. Painting has served me in so many ways, beginning in 1997, when I had an “out of the blue” cardiac arrest. I decided to find some activities in addition to hiking to keep myself busy. Watercolor painting seemed like a good fit. Over the years it has become an important part of my life, and an integral part of how I interact with the world and with my Self.

Landscapes are a favorite subject, but I also enjoy intuitive art, abstracts, portraits and flowers. The love of creating keeps me painting. Plus, it is exciting to work with the colors and water as they do their own thing. Painting is a way to express some of the love and wonder I have for family and nature, while it teaches me to be a better observer of what is around me and how I relate to it. In other words, it challenges me to keep growing in awareness, creativity and gratitude.

As a Signature Member of the Spokane Watercolor Society, I am grateful to be part of a community that supports my growth as an artist.