

JACKI HAGI



HOME PORTRAITS

MY CREATIVE JOURNEY STARTED IN CHICAGO, DRAWING AT A YOUNG AGE. AS MY PASSION FOR THE ARTS GREW, I TOOK MY FIRST JOB FOR A PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIO UNTIL I GRADUATED HIGH SCHOOL. I THEN MOVED ON TO A WELL KNOWN PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIO LOCATED IN DOWNTOWN CHICAGO. I WAS AIR BRUSHING PORTRAITS WHILE TAKING CLASSES AT THE ART INSTITUTE. AS MY LIFELONG JOURNEY DISCOVERING THE ARTS CONTINUED, I BEGAN AIR BRUSHING ON CERAMIC PLAQUES IN OAK PARK IL, CONTINUING MY EDUCATION AT NORTH PARK COLLEGE.

IN 1973 I MARRIED, AND ALONG CAME TWO CHILDREN. DESPITE HAVING MY HANDS FULL RAISING THEM, I WAS ALWAYS PAINTING WITH OILS AND DRAWING WHEN THE TIME PERMITTED. OVER THE YEARS I CONTINUED TO EXPLORE WITH WATERCOLORS, PENCILS, AND PASTELS. I FOUND A REAL NICHE IN THE ART COMMUNITY BY ACCIDENT; I CREATED PORTRAITS AS GIFTS FOR MY SIX SIBLINGS, AND WAS OVERWHELMED WITH THE JOY IT GAVE THEM. THE PORTRAITS WERE OF THEIR HOMES, WHICH I CAPTURED USING PENCILS AND PASTELS. AS THESE GIFTS WERE SHOWN AROUND TO OTHERS, PEOPLE STARTED TO USE THIS IDEA AS AN ARRAY OF EVENT GIFTS; GIVING THEM AS ANNIVERSARY, BIRTHDAY, AND HOLIDAY PRESENTS. I CONTINUE THIS SERVICE TODAY, AND THE PORTRAITS ARE THE MOST SOUGHT AFTER WORKS I CREATE. SEEING THE APPRECIATION OF PEOPLE AND THEIR FAMILIES AFTER RECEIVING ONE OF THESE WORKS CONTINUES TO BRING ME THE JOY I HAVE COME TO KNOW THROUGH MY ARTWORK.

I HAVE BEEN A MEMBER OF THE ANTIOCH FINE ARTS FOUNDATION SINCE 2002. AS A RESIDENT OF SPRING GROVE FOR 33 YEARS, I FELT THE NEED TO GIVE BACK AND TO BRING TOGETHER ARTISTS WHO HAVE THE SAME PASSION FOR THE ARTS AS I HAVE. IN 2008, I FORMED THE SPRING GROVE FINE ARTS LEAGUE, ALONG WITH OTHER LOCAL ARTISTS. I LOOK FORWARD TO SPREADING HAPPINESS THROUGH MY HOME PORTRAITS AND OTHER CREATIONS AS I CONTINUE THE JOURNEY OF ART.
