

DADDY'S LITTLE GIRL

It doesn't seem so long ago that her mother placed her in my arms,
Back then, I held her close to me, to keep her safe from harm.

We chose a name to give her and looked forward to the day,
When she would speak her first words; maybe "Daddy" is what she'd say.

It was just a minor disappointment that caused my brow to furrow,
When she made the sound of "ma ma," even though she's Daddy's little girl.

Now I look and see she's growing up; the years fly by like days,
I'd love so much to keep her young and watch the way she plays.

She dresses up and acts the part of a bride on her wedding day,
And my eyes grow moist when I realize that someday she'll go away.

It doesn't seem too far off when another will take her from my arm,
Giving her a different name, and so I ask, "Please keep her safe from harm."

Someday she'll be a woman, with her own future to unfurl,
But in my heart, I'll hold her close; forever Daddy's little girl.

Greg Olsen - 1999

Greg Olsen

Greg was born in Idaho Falls, Idaho and grew up in the nearby farming community of Iona. He is the oldest of five children. Greg was blessed with very supportive parents who always encouraged him and provided opportunities for him to pursue his passion of art. Greg remembers a time as a teenager when he had been hired to paint a large sign for a local grocery store. It was wintertime and too cold to paint in the garage so his parents let him set up a workshop in his bedroom. He promptly spilled two quarts of black and orange enamel paint all over his bedroom carpet. Amazingly, his parents still encouraged him in his artistic endeavors.

After high school Greg attended Utah State University where he studied art. While attending school he met his wife, Sydnie Cazier. They have six children and are enjoying their new role as grandparents. Greg likes being close to his family. He paints in his studio, 37 steps from the back door of their home. Greg says, "From an early age I have always been fascinated by paintings that create mood, emotion and atmosphere; especially those paintings that lift me and transport me to some far off place. These are the elements I strive to create in my paintings. My paintings in many ways record what is most important to me: my feelings and experiences with family and friends along with the spiritual aspects of my life. My hope is that in these images you will find something familiar, something which will resonate and remind you of what is important in your own life."