

## MELODIES REMEMBERED

Loving moments, like family heirlooms, are precious keepsakes and memories that intertwine to become the melody of our lives. We keep near us treasured tokens of cherished days that pass all too quickly. Cedar-lined chests hold souvenir dolls and dresses, mementos that bring back to life the wonder of toddlers talking to themselves in a world of their own, of little arms that hug tightly and of lips that unashamedly offer kisses. The hands of time move like a magic wand and our young cherubs soon bloom into more mature and gracious beauties, but nothing melts the heart quite like the face of an innocent child. These are moments we memorize and replay in our minds like an old favorite tune, and we can't help but smile once again.

Greg Olsen -1995

❖ About the Artist ❖

### 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."