GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS

by Mark Keathley



I don't know what happens we leave mountains and head back to our homes down in the "flatlands." The memory of the enormous mounds of rock fades, and the size shrivels in our minds - so much so that the next these mountains are visited, the rush of excitement and aweinspiring scale is right there in the heart of the viewer, again. Wonder of all kinds seems to fade with the passing of time. Remember the excitement when you saw the one you love on that third or fourth date! I can recall the joy when my parents surprised me with an electric guitar for my birthday and can count on two or three hands the extreme joy I had at other times (my wedding, our boys' births, etc., etc.).

Joy and wonder – they are participation sports and something to be immersed in, like a place to "let go," and to be held there - as if floating in Daddy's arms in a pool. They seem to come from a place inside where there are no worries, where we are being "held" by another, and where there is an assurance that there is a future and a hope. I think this is part of the wonder of the mountains. This awesome handiwork of God screams, "look at ME! I'm here, I'm for you, you are small, but I've got this" – as they stand strong over us, and point towards the heavens.

I wanted to create that sense of "I am small" but look at all that wonder, peace, and beauty as you stand and look out over the Great Smoky Mountains and breathe in the sense of belonging, that sense of being held, and of knowing you are loved and cared for in this new image. Experience the Joy as I do every time I visit these grand old mountains and the friendly folks that live among them.

SIZE	EDITION	EDITION SIZE	FRAMED	UNFRAMED
18x24	SN	195	\$895	\$695
18x24	AP	25	\$1395	\$1195
25.5x34	SN	95	\$1395	\$1075
25.5x34	AP	15	\$1995	\$1675
30x40	SN	50	\$1795	\$1345
30x40	AP	10	\$2795	\$2345

