



Jeffrey Hayes – Artist Bio

Although I am just starting out as a “professional” photographic artist, I’ve really been a serious amateur photographer most of my life. My father, George, was also a serious photographer. When I was growing up in Kokomo, Indiana, my dad owned the Kokomo Camera Shop and two others in Marion and Anderson, Ind. Early on, he concentrated on black and white work and had a darkroom in the basement. As his kids grew and we started taking family camping trips he moved on to color slides, using his trusty Leica M3 (he never went to digital). I picked up his interest in black and white, and after we moved to a new house while I was in high school, I built my own darkroom in the basement.

After high school, I went off to Purdue University to study Aeronautical Engineering. Meanwhile, my dad sold his business and moved the family to Tucson, Arizona. I started my engineering career in Phoenix at Garrett AirResearch in 1973. After a 45-year career as an aerodynamicist in the jet engine business, I retired in 2018 from Honeywell Aerospace (same company, different name!).

Over the years photography has always been one of my favorite hobbies. My Olympus OM1 was my trusty companion, until I discovered digital and eventually moved on to Nikon equipment. In 1997 my wife Jane and I moved from North Phoenix to the Superstition Foothills/Mining Camp neighborhood. As I neared retirement, Jane and I started spending as much summer time as we could in Show Low and the White Mountains. I decided to turn my hobby into a more serious artistic pursuit and join Jane as a member of the High Country Art Association and the Artists of the Superstitions. I attended some photography workshops with Dale Kesel and Joanne West, both accomplished professionals. With their encouragement I felt I had made the right decision.

My photographic interests are mainly landscapes, nature macro close-ups, and “patterns”. My subjects have been found close to home (both in the foothills of the Superstition Mountains and the White Mountains), and during travels with Jane (Western U.S., Mexico, Canada, Hawaii, Alaska, Italy).