

“The biggest risk I have ever taken is quitting my job to pursue my passion for design. A daunting task at age 57. My mother always told me, ‘You can do anything you want to do if you want to do it badly enough.’ That phrase has been a refrain often in my life but never more so than when I took this risk. It helped me decide to be brave and go forth in many tasks but especially this one — to become a professional wedding floral designer.

“With a \$5000 investment and the support of my family and their talents, we had a logo designed, my son helped design and launch a website, and I joined online wedding services of the Knot and Wedding Wire. I also took a professional course and was certified as an Advanced Floral Design Specialist.

“As I got ready to design my first professional wedding, I gathered the proper tools and ordered flowers. I also did one more thing. It has been 42 years since my mother died, and for the first time I placed a picture of her on the wall in my studio. ... I never had the courage to hang a picture of her before. It just hurt too much. But this time it gave me strength to take a risk. I cried a little, prayed a lot and got to work. The bride was thrilled and wrote a wonderful review.

“It has been almost five years since I launched MEWS Designs Wedding Florist. The MEWS part is just my initials but always piques interest. I did so to honor my parents and in particular my mom who through her passion for antiques, fashion and ‘pretty things,’ ingrained in me the use of color and texture. All my life I have had a creative restlessness. It has manifested in many ways from poetry, smocking and sewing, to painting and jewelry design. However, wedding floral design has been the most satisfying due to the wonderful affirmation from all my brides. To be a part of the most important day of their lives is quite an honor and is not taken lightly.

“This is the only job I’ve had in my life that I truly love. I wish I had been doing it all my life. I guess in a way, my life has prepared me for this. It has been and is a huge blessing. The cherry on top is working with my entire family and utilizing their talents from design to marketing and advertising. The support of all my family near and far has been priceless. I am grateful, less stressed and joyful every time new flowers are delivered for design. Then I can begin to create for my bride — the wedding flowers of her dreams.”

Marsha Snyder

MEW-Designs Wedding Florist

www.mews-designs.com