

## My Journey

by Kenita Gibbins

Before my Golden Years disappear, taking pictures like Richard Avedon and Annie Leibovitz plus writing/lecturing like Patricia Limerick is my goal. At this point in my life, there is no reason not to put goals high.

At a photography conference in Zion National Park, a friend and I stopped along a path to let other photographers pass us. "Al, who is your favorite photographer?" He said, "Richard Avedon." My eyes opened wide. I was at the Metropolitan Art Museum in New York, savoring his show "In the American West" the day before he died. Al went on to tell me he had helped Avedon put the book together! Al wasn't familiar with Annie Leibovitz. Well, no wonder she does staging of famous people for *Vogue Magazine*. It would be fun to have a cast of lighting experts, fashion coordinators plus a group of far-reaching people to photograph.

Avedon reached the souls and trust of the people he captured on film. When photographing young children, we talk and become friends. Recently I shot a high school senior. He cooperated, but didn't love being in front of a camera. I let him take over and choose the spots he liked for his pictures. It will be fun to see which images he uses for his yearbook and announcement cards.

When Patty Limerick's byline in the *Denver Post* shows up, time to read every single word becomes available. We bought tickets yesterday to hear her be a commentator at the Denver Art Museum in January. She has a great sense of humor and uses this gift to get her audience to listen to her wisdom.

Our Golden Years will quit being a fun journey when we stop setting goals for living life to the fullest.