

## Strip Poker

*By Sharon Buchan*

Even though I was seven months pregnant, we decided to go camping in Glenwood Springs. I was able to find a bathing suit at a shop near the Denver Dry Goods Department Store. It was called the Maternity Mode. We went swimming in the world famous pool shortly after arriving.

To my dismay the swimming suit floated up to my neck immediately. After floating around and splashing each other I saw another mother with a precious little boy. When I tried to talk with the little one he began crying and pointing at me while yelling for his mother. When I looked over at my husband he was doubled over laughing. I asked him what I did wrong. He said, "If you could see yourself. Not only is your swimming suit afloat but your mascara has run all over your face." I was so embarrassed and not able to apologize to the other mother and her son. He was clinging to her and she was soothing him and walking away from me.

We camped outside of Glenwood Springs and as was our custom we played Strip Poker. I never won these games, but wanted to be a good sport.

It felt like the baby's thing to kick was my bladder. I cannot remember how many times we had to stop playing so I could walk to the bathroom. This was quite a process as I had to put back on whatever clothing I had lost in the game. After losing almost all of my clothing I told Gary this was the last game and we would finish it when I returned. I was going to win for a change. We played Jacks or Better to open. I felt so smug with my Royal Straight. However when I returned and squeezed into my seat, in between the Camper seat and table, I no longer had a Royal Straight.

My husband had a silly grin on his face. I yelled, "You have been stacking the deck all this time." He started laughing and soon I was laughing also.

Who really won those games, who was the successful one at Strip Poker? I was, because I now have two beautiful children.