

RAINBOWS ARE MORE RARE THAN SUNSETS

By Cindy Peters

Rainbow colors reminds me of a wedding my husband and I attended in 1978. We had just been married ourselves and made it back from our honeymoon just in time for our friend's wedding. My husband was one of the groomsmen at the wedding. All the wedding party wore different rainbow colors. Only the bridesmaid and her groomsman that was her escort matched each other's color scheme. It was visually awful. The mix-match of colors looked garish and like clown colors. The idea sounded beautiful and unique. However, the results were a disaster.

My husband and I attended another wedding in 1990 near the Colorado foothills. The couple said their vows exactly as the sun was setting. The sunset was a spectacular backdrop to the wedding. It was wedding number two for the groom and wedding number four for the bride, who went on to marry three more times. So perhaps the outcome was a bit unusual.

The most beautiful sunsets that I viewed were those on the plains of South Dakota. While the experience lasted a few brief minutes, it gave memories for a lifetime. The sunsets in Colorado are beautiful but much shorter, as the sun quickly dips below the majestic Rocky Mountains.

I do not know why rainbows are the symbols for the LGBT community, but they are. I do not know the history of why they were chosen.

I am probably more partial to rainbows over sunsets because they are rarer. Rainbows do not occur as often as sunsets, so they seem incredibly special. My husband and I saw more rainbows when we were in Hawaii than anywhere else in the world.

In the old testament of the Bible the Lord used the rainbow as a symbol and a promise. The Lord promised that a rainbow means that the whole world will never be totally flooded and destroyed by water ever again. Rainbows bring hope and inspiration. To me rainbows mean that peace and tranquility is once again restored after a storm.

I like the Irish tale that there is a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. My favorite song by Judy Garland is "Somewhere Over the Rainbow." I hope we can all find our dreams fulfilled at the end of the rainbow.