

# I am Lyn Foley, a glass artist. I create jewelry to make you a star!

After earning a B.A. degree in art education in 1967, I flitted between teaching art and creating watercolors, drawings, jewelry and fiber.

## Meeting Jim Foley in 1974 changed my life.

In 1974, while selling my hand crocheted clothing on the streets of San Francisco, I met Jim Foley, a goldsmith selling his beautiful lost wax cast jewelry. We fell in love. We celebrated our relationship with a romantic trip to Mexico. There, on a secluded beach with only pelicans and a lone sailboat on the horizon, we vowed to sail around the world.

We returned to California to earn money to finance our dream. I put fiber aside and together we opened a fine jewelry store, then a card store, then another. Jim evolved into a master goldsmith, I mastered the entrepreneurial mix. Years passed. Our marriage, our business, our jewelry skills and our savings account prospered, but our dream lay tucked away on a shelf.

## Our dream gathered dust until health problems woke us up in 1990.

My health issue was resolved, but Jim's was not. He had Parkinson's disease, a progressive, degenerative brain disorder with no known cure. After a doctor's dire warning of "five years to live" we sold it all: the stores, the house, the cars, and moved aboard a sailboat. Ten years and 35,000 sea miles later we completed our circumnavigation. The book I wrote about realizing our dream, [\*Go Anyway: Sailing Around the World with Parkinson's\*](#), has inspired thousands of people.

In 2002 we sold our sailboat and moved to Round Top, Texas. I created jewelry again, but wasn't accepted into high end art shows since I did not make the beads. One rejection in particular incensed me, and I told Jim, "I'm gonna learn how to make beads, and I'm going to be in that show next year!"

## Learning lampworking in 2003 changed my life again.

Lampworking involves melting glass in a torch flame to make beads. Using a torch scared me, and I spent my first day making beads with shaking hands. Suddenly, the fear disappeared. I fell in love with melting glass. I bought the needed supplies and set up a studio. If Parkinson's allows, Jim works too, designing and making findings and settings in sterling silver. \*(I got into that show!)

## I love making glass beads and jewelry.

All of my art skills merged when I found glass: my love of drawing, of texture, and of color. The glass beads I create as I melt glass are miniature paintings. I offer the beads I make to you, each bead a link in the jewelry I create, each a moment of love captured in time. The art of lampworking offers endless possibilities, myriad moments of discovery. Your participation allows me to continue creating unforgettable jewelry for remarkable women. I thank you.

## Lyn Foley- Unforgettable Jewelry for Remarkable Women

<http://www.LynFoley.com>