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SHARON ADVOCATE

Dr. Mazer makes Watercolors bloom

By Leigh Hornbeck
STAFF WRITER

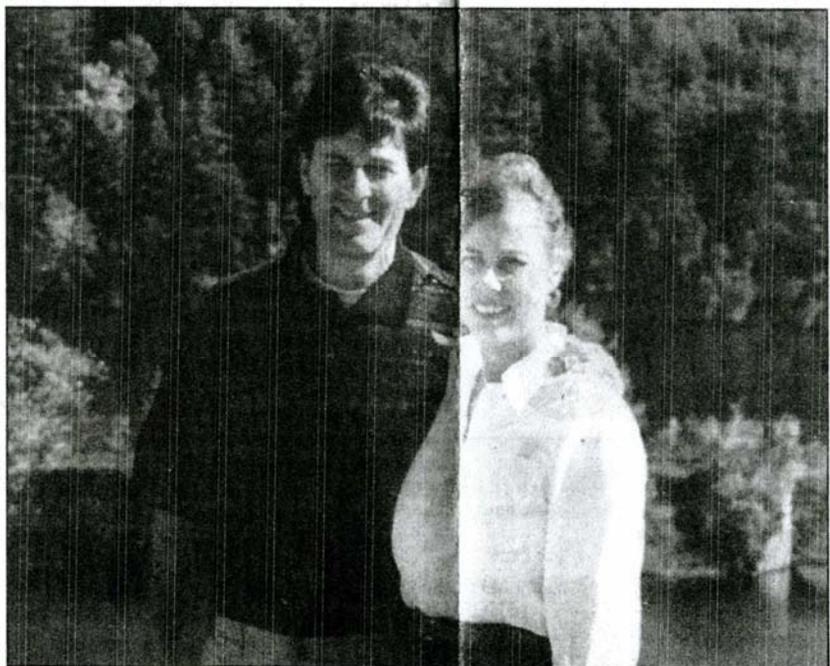
Myron (Mike) Mazer knew from childhood that he wanted to be a doctor, but he always loved sketching. Four years ago, in his 50s and amid a long and successful career in medicine, Dr. Mazer began to paint.

He chose watercolors. a medium he finds frustrating but rewarding, and painted under the tutelage of Ray Doyle, a Copley artist from Acton. Mazer said that Doyle gave advice rather than direction, and often their conversation turned from painting to hockey, another common interest.

Now Mazer is an accomplished watercolorist in his own right, and after initial reluctance has shown his work at the Boston exhibition of the Massachusetts Medical Society and Canton and Stoughton Art Associations' shows. He provided the Felos Memorial Center in Stoughton its first one man show.

"I didn't want to be involved in exhibitions because I didn't want to have to sell anything, Mazer said. "It would have been like giving away my children."

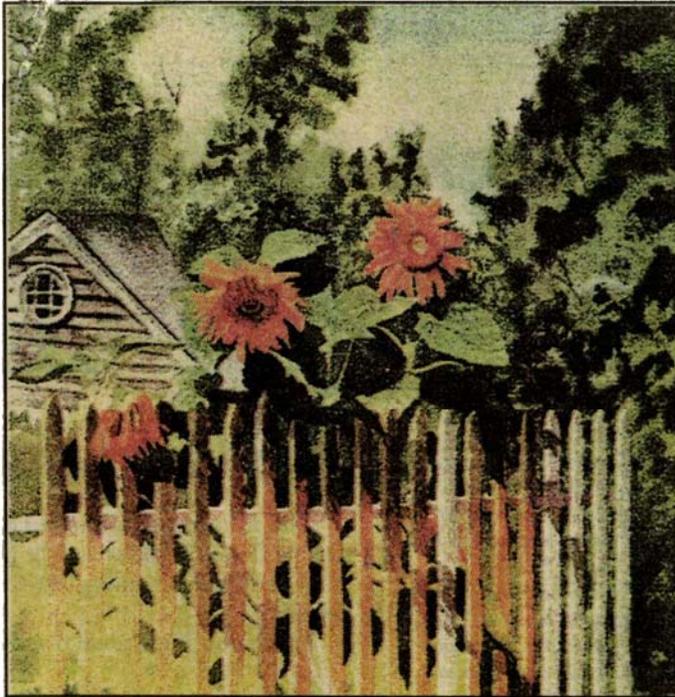
Mazer has now sold around 30 pieces, ranging from \$350 to \$1,300, but he places a high price tag on those he doesn't want to let go.



Dr. and Mrs. Mike Mazer

He does not have a personal favorite, and is in fact rarely pleased with his own work.

"Often I will throw something out and Marilyn will take it out of the garbage," Mazer said.



The Doctor as Artist

Myron Mazer became an accomplished water colorist amid a medical career

Mrs. Mazer's favorite of her husband's paintings came from a photograph she took of sunflowers behind a picket fence. Sometimes he incorporates people into his paintings, wife Marilyn among them. Most of the Dr. and Mrs. Mike Mazer work lining the walls of their house on Bishop Road are landscapes and maritime scenes.

Mazer, an internist specializing in cardiology and nephrology, and keeps a busy schedule that doesn't often allow him the opportunity to paint outside. He looks for a certain light or shadow, and sometimes he is inspired by the mood of a scene. He captures it in sketches, photographs and memory to be recreated later in his studio.

Mazer's favorite colors are yellows, reds and oranges. He prefers to make them ethereal, often taking artistic license with the original scene to lighten it up.

His studio is a small room tucked into the upstairs of his house. It is lined with books about painting and using water colors, a source, Mazer says, of most of his education on the subject. The room is full of tubes of paint and work in various stages of completion. It is equipped with speakers that pipe classical music into the corner where Mazer's table sits.

Mazer can finish a painting in a day, but rarely has that much time to paint. Using his spare time, he takes about a month to finish a small painting.

The Mazers also have a house next to Buzzards Bay in Mattapoisett, where he has a more spacious studio.

When Mazer started painting he thought it might function as a stress reliever, but the nature of water colors led to a different kind of stress. Even so, he said he prefers the spontaneity and will not switch to oils. Mazer compares it with the medical profession,

saying he reads constantly and is always learning as a doctor. He does the same in pursuit of masterpieces on paper.

One of Mazer's paintings, being shown in the Massachusetts Audubon Society Moose Hill Wildlife Sanctuary right now, is of the Carabasset Valley River in Maine. Mazer has an exhibit coming up at Stonehill College in Easton from Dec. 1 through Jan. 31. His work will also be shown at the Marion Art Center in Marion, July 15 to Aug. 10.

Mazer has yet to paint a scene from Sharon, but he said there are beautiful things to paint in his backyard. He likes to capture the untouched places he and Mrs. Mazer come upon in their travels through New Hampshire, Vermont and Maine.

Mazer is having surgery on a back injury this week, an operation that may return him to his full schedule in medicine. If not, he will have more time to paint. If so, however, Mazer will continue with his dual loves, being a doctor and painting with watercolors.