

AGNES L. BARNES
PHOTOGRAPHER

Agnes L. Barnes is an Ohio native. She was born in Portsmouth but has lived in Toledo for nearly fifty years. Her interest in photography began with the gift of a camera when she was in high school and continued through her years of marriage and child rearing. After the death of her daughter Beth Ann to leukemia in 1980, she used the medium of photo slides of Beth Ann's life for presentations to church, educational and medical groups to portray ways to assist families with chronically or terminally ill children. For ten years Agnes facilitated a bereaved parents group, which still meets in Perrysburg.

Gardening is a hobby for Agnes, and many of her floral pictures are taken in her own flower gardens. She and her husband, Chet, enjoy Amish friends and Amish country, and she has an excellent selection of Amish pictures.

Travel is one of their favorite things to do since Chet's retirement in 1996. They spent three weeks in New England taking pictures, with an emphasis on lighthouses. Two years later they went to England so Agnes could take pictures in quaint little villages. In 2000 they spent three weeks in the southeast, where lighthouses and old southern homes were her focus. Their destinations in 2002 were islands in the Pacific, which culminated in images of life on the historic islands of Pohnpei, Guam and Saipan, as well as Hawaii.

October 2006 found them in China, where Agnes was able to photograph the Great Wall and the Terra Cotta Warriors of the Qin Dynasty, along with other Chinese landmarks. Many of her customers have commented that to look through her selection of photographs is like taking a vacation yourself.

Another venture is the collaboration with author and lecturer Dr. Scott Sheperd on the beautiful book, Choosing the Gift, which portrays a powerful and comforting message of hope and possibility through verbal images and photographs.