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# APPLEWOOD

MARCH 2024

*Living*

A LOVE STORY  
OF FAMILY & COMMUNITY  
**Jean & Sam Guyton**  
Helped Shape Applewood!

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PHOTO BY LISA BENGTON, BLENDWORKS DIGITAL MARKETING

# A LIFETIME OF **Love, Adventure & Community** in Applewood



BY ILENE HANSON | PHOTOS BY LISA BENGTON, BLENDWORKS DIGITAL MARKETING



marked by three years in Texas during Sam's service in the Air Force, and another three years in Virginia when he pursued law school. Throughout these experiences, the dream of returning to Colorado, where Jean had attended the University of Colorado in the '50s, never wavered.

The Guytons, now in their golden years, find solace in the simple joys of life. They share a love for reading, often spending leisurely afternoons curled up with a good book. Jean is a passionate gardener. They have tended to a large flower garden and a large vegetable for years. The couple fondly recalls the companionship of several beloved dogs, with a special mention of Snooky, a goose that believed it was a dog, ruling their yard for an impressive eleven years.

Their passion for the outdoors mirrors their love for each other. Having explored most of Colorado, including sections of the Colorado Trail and the Highline Canal, Sam has conquered all of the state's 14,000-foot peaks. They had a camper for years and went to every state in the country, visiting the high points in most of the states. Their adventurous spirit extends globally, with hikes across England, through the wine country of France, and two memorable journeys on the Camino in Spain. Sam's climbing pursuits have taken him to Europe and Africa, as well as the Soviet Union.

Beyond their personal adventures, the Guytons are deeply committed to community building. In 2013, they founded The Holland and Hart Foundation, a testament to their dedication to fostering connections within and beyond the firm's eight offices. Over its 25-year existence, the foundation has touched the lives of thousands, creating bridges between individuals and their communities.

Reflecting on the changes in Applewood since their arrival, Sam and Jean recall a time when I-70 had not yet been built, and the area was primarily farmland. Apple trees dotted the landscape, and the original developer, Myron Bunger, lived nearby. The couple felt an instant connection to the community, with its small-town charm reminiscent of their upbringing in Mississippi and Massachusetts.



**O**UR QUIET SUBURB OF APPLEWOOD, nestled amidst the picturesque landscapes of Colorado, is home to a couple whose love story spans over six decades. Meet Jean and Sam Guyton, an 86-year-old duo whose journey together is a testament to enduring love, shared adventures, and a commitment to community building.

The Guytons, married in 1959, have weathered the sands of time, embracing life's twists and turns with unwavering grace. They proudly share that one of their three children was born after their move to Applewood, where they chose to call home sixty years ago. While their children may have ventured far from the nest, the pull of nostalgia brings them back to the place where their roots run deep. Their three children, Tamara, Bill, and Sage are still the loves of their lives, and granddaughter Jemma is bringing them new and profound grandparent joy.

Sam's professional journey led him to a career as a tax attorney at the prestigious firm of Holland and Hart, while Jean dedicated her time to teaching English to refugees and foreign students at School of Mines. The couple's life together has been



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COVER STORY



Their neighborhood, once surrounded by horses and cows, has evolved into a bustling community, now filled with new faces and young families. The Guytons take pride in being the friendly faces that welcome each new baby, providing a sense of extended family for those who may be far from their own.



The couple enjoys the proximity of local businesses and stays informed about new shops through the pages of *Applewood Living*, a magazine that holds a special place in their hearts. They eagerly anticipate reading about their neighbors, relishing the stories that bind this close-knit community together.

As the Guytons continue to savor the beauty of Applewood and the warmth of its community, they serve as a living testament to the enduring power of love, the thrill of adventure, and the importance of building meaningful connections that span a lifetime. 🌟

WE WOULD LOVE TO HIGHLIGHT YOUR FAMILY'S STORIES in the new year. To nominate your family or other interesting Applewood residents, please contact Ilene Hanson at [ilenehanson@bestversionmedia.com](mailto:ilenehanson@bestversionmedia.com).

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