

# Joanne Gaba



Joanne Gaba is a 27 year member of the Georgia Quilt Council, and she is a founding member of the Lavender Mountain Quilt Guild in Rome, Georgia. As a transplanted Yankee, Joanne was born in Fulton, New York, just a few miles from the shores of Lake Ontario. After high school she went to nursing school, and then worked at White Plains hospital. It was here that she met her husband, Manny, who was an intern from the Philippines. They married and had three children. After living in several places in the Northeast, they moved to Rome, GA where he specialized in Tuberculosis at Northwest Georgia Regional Hospital.

Joanne continued to work as a nurse until her children were born, but later got her Bachelor's in Nursing from Georgia State. She continued her career, but discovered quilting when a co-worker took a quilting class and Joanne became interested in what she learned. All along, Joanne had been sewing clothing for herself and her children and had become an accomplished seamstress. She took a class along with her mother, Marian Ducret, with Monty Howell at the Rome Floyd County Dept. of Recreation where she learned to make sampler quilts, and has been an avid quilter ever since.

Each of her three children and six grandchildren owns quilts that Joanne has made, and she has made numerous charity quilts. She has never been inspired to sell her work, but takes great pleasure in making quilts and wishes she had more time to complete her many UFO's. A proficient quilter, she enjoys all aspects of quilting. She also works in other arts and craft genre. Joanne has taken many quilting classes with various teachers at quilt stores, at GQC, and at the Toccoa Quilting Retreat where she has faithfully attended for the past 22 years.

Joanne loves to making road trips to quilt shops and attending quilt shows. After being widowed for three years, she attended the Houston International Quilt Show which was one of her goals. Joanne loves how quilting allows her to express her creativity and provides her with challenges. Her latest interest is in using wool to quilt and embroider. She was inspired by the work of Susan Edmondson. In addition to her quilting activities she is an active member of her church and also volunteers at the local food kitchen and the public library.

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