

The first meeting is to discuss and reach agreement regarding the portrait size, medium, background, clothing, accessories, and any other elements to be included in the portrait. We also discuss where the portrait will hang. Digital photo references are made if possible. Favorite photos are welcome and/or color studies can be used to establish composition and color. Subjects are painted from photos and when possible, from life. It is best to bring a large selection of photos, especially close ups and then together narrow the selection down to a few favorite poses. This selection will depend on quality of photos (coloring, detail, lighting, etc.) This usually takes approximately one hour. From this information, the final price is determined. The client is invited to view the portrait at any time during the progression of the painting. Complete satisfaction is guaranteed. Feedback is welcomed along the way, but I reserve the right to make certain decisions based on my experience & expertise.

### **Checklist of things to consider as you commission a portrait:**

- *Is this photo a good likeness of the person? If you don't really like the photo, you will not like the painting.*
- *Do I like all parts of the photo?*
- *Does it show the personality of the subject? (ex. Somber expression for a fun loving person)*
- *Has the person changed considerably since the photo was taken?*
- *Where will the painting hang?*

### **Posthumous Portraits**

*I can work from old photos, including black and white, to create a treasured heirloom of a loved one who is now deceased. Information regarding the subject's personality, eye, hair, and skin coloring, as well as a variety of photos is necessary.*

### **Traditional Paintings**

*Original paintings in the tradition of the old masters, home, garden, and still life paintings are also available.*

*Reproductions of Old Masters paintings are also available.*

### **Care of Oil Paintings**

Approximately 6 months after completion, the painting will need to be varnished. This is to insure the paint has cured. After the portrait has been framed the care is not extensive but some issues should be addressed. Paintings should be hung out of direct sunlight in a location that is not subject to smoke, soot, dust and grease. A spot over the fireplace with a mantel, however, is acceptable since the smoke goes up the chimney. An even moisture/dry atmosphere will keep the painting from growing mold or becoming brittle. A light and regular dusting is recommended.

**Pastel Portraits** should be matted and framed so that the pastel is not touching the glass & then sealed to keep moisture out. Do not hang in direct sunlight, or subject to smoke, dust, or grease.