

Wheat Ridge sculptor named Carnation festival count

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Kevin Robb has been selected this year's Carnation Festival count. Robb, a 49-year-old sculptor who moved to Wheat Ridge 10 years ago, suffered a massive stroke in January but is now recovering.

His wife, Dianne, who spoke on her husband's behalf, said it was a great honor that her husband was selected this year. Kevin Robb still suffers from aphasia, a post-stroke effect that inhibits his verbal skills. However, Dianne said he is recovering very well.

"It's truly remarkable, his comeback," she said. Dianne Robb also praised the support they have received from the community through the rough times. "It just really warmed us ... the people who stepped up to help us through this time," she said.

Despite Robb's abrupt changes in life, he continues to build sculptures, which he sells locally and internationally.

He works out of a studio next to his home and garden, which he has turned in to a sculpture patch, and he has shown his sculptures all around the nation. His sculptures are mainly made with stainless steel, bronze and aluminum. They are also quite large, ranging from 4 feet up to 18 feet tall.

In 1978, Robb graduated from the Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design with a degree in graphic arts, which he intended to apply to a career in advertising. However, after four years in the field, he began working in a foundry where he experimented with sculpture. He started to sculpt with a realistic style but got tired of that and moved to do more abstract sculpture.

A 1986 trip to Japan piqued his

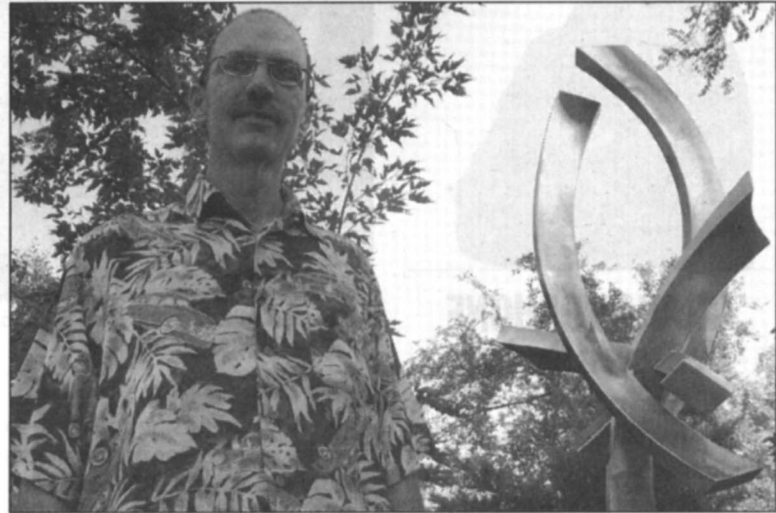


Photo by JUSTIN SAGARSEE

Sculptor Kevin Robb was named count of the Carnation Festival.

interest in curvilinear form, a style that defines most of his work.

The Robbs have one daughter, 15-year-old Kelsey, who attends

Wheat Ridge High School.

"We are all looking forward to the festival — it will be fun," Dianne said.