

Centennial couple celebrates 70th on Columbus Day

By **CHUCK MONTERA**,
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This is the conservative estimate on the number of times Sandy Mills has told his wife, Jenot, "I love you" during their marriage – 25,550.

That sounds like an exaggeration to most people, until they hear the Mills have been married for 70 years.

On Oct. 12, Sandy and Jenot Mills celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary at their home at the Holly Creek Retirement Community in Centennial. The two lovebirds act as affectionately toward each other today as on their first date.

When asked about their first date, they said they followed the common first date ritual – a movie and popcorn. Sandy is quick to point out, however, it was not a "silent" movie. The two Cleveland natives tied the knot in 1940, as war raged in Europe.

"There was not a thought of the U.S. entering the war when Jenot and I were married in 1940," Sandy said "We were both 24, excited to start a family and ready to run my family's construction business in Cleveland. A little more than a year later, our country was at war and I was getting drafted into the U.S. Army."

So while Sandy served in the Army, Jenot was at home, raising their first child.

"It hasn't always been peaches and cream," recalls Jenot. "Raising a young child alone while Sandy was serving in the war was tough. But we got through it and



Sandy Mills strokes the cheek of his wife, Jenot, as they toast each other on their 70th anniversary during a celebration at Holly Creek Retirement Community.

Photo by Chuck Montero

we've been blessed many times over."

Getting married on Columbus Day made it convenient to remember their anniversary, for the most part.

"But the government changed the date of the holiday to the second Monday in October," Jenot said.

Even with the date change, Sandy and Jenot have no problem remembering and sharing their anniversary together.

Among the Mills' proudest achievements are their two daughters who live in Denver, their two sons in New York and Utah, 10 grandchildren and an equal number of great-grandchildren.

The Mills' daughter, Molly, joined them for their 70th organized by Elaine Romero, a unit secretary at the Suites at Holly Creek.

"Elaine made our 70th so special. Not only did she organize the event, she baked and decorated our cake, and made us a corsage and boutonniere," said Jenot. "She really cares about the us and the other residents and demonstrates that with her kindness, involvement and concern for our lives."

Surrounded by friends, staff and family at Holly Creek, Sandy toasted his bride of 70 years, saying, "I married you 70 years ago today and love you as much today as I did then."

And then he blew Jenot a kiss. Many at the celebration dried their eyes at the touching gesture.

Asked what the secret is to their long, happy marriage, Sandy responded: "Respect your spouse and don't be critical of one another. Be sure to notice the little things your spouse does."

He added, "Don't say, 'Gee honey, that's a lousy looking hair-do.'"

Jenot added her sentiments. "Having a sense of humor is probably the most important thing to staying married 70 years," she said.

They shared one other secret. They have told each other I love you every day of their marriage.

Elizabeth Lindsay Creations mark 10th anniversary

Denver-based, artist-owned Elizabeth Lindsay Creations is celebrating a decade in business in Cherry Creek North.



Elizabeth Lindsay

Elizabeth Lindsay Creations, 3033 E. 1st Avenue, has been independent and artist-owned since the beginning, and has become known as an affordable go-to boutique for unique gifts, accessories and jewelry.

Lindsay is creator of custom-made Token Tags, hand-stamped sterling silver, mini dog tags the customer gets to personalize.

The 10th anniversary celebration is scheduled, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Nov. 12 and 13. Lindsay said customers will be treated to drinks and specials on the tags.

Elizabeth Lindsay Creator is a long-time supporter of the community. "Giving back is twice as nice" will be a theme of the event. Anyone who brings in a previously used item of clothing for Dress Success will get a free gift.

She also supports two charities through her shop – breast cancer research and In Defense of Animals.

She was chosen by the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure to be the 10-year pin for Denver. When her mother was nearing the end of her 12-year battle with breast cancer, Lindsay stamped out words of encouragement and support for her father to wear on a tag. That is how Token Tags were born.