



# Up Up and AWAY



David Taylor


When I was about ten years old, I made a list of the things I'd like to do when I grew up. I remember I wanted to be an astronaut. I wanted to live in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado. I wanted to fly in a hot air balloon. I had a lot of other dreams, too. I've yet to make it to outer space, but I do live in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, and I have taken a ride in a hot air balloon.

Our valley here in Northwest Colorado is a natural choice for hot air balloon enthusiasts. A morning doesn't go by during the summer when you can't look out your window and see these gentle giants floating through a crystal blue sky. I love the perspective of this balloon image, taken from the ground, looking up as the basket ascends into the morning sky.

My quilt, *Up, Up and Away*, was created by adapting the stained glass, bias-strip appliqué technique. The basket and its passengers were appliquéd on top and hand-embroidery of the roped riggings finished it off. As a final touch, I "painted" on the steam using a bleach technique.

● An exhibit of David's quilts are on display at the Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum in Golden, Colorado, through May 3, 2008. Selected pieces from the exhibit will then travel to France for the Patchwork Expo in Provence from June 26-30. To see more of David Taylor's original quilts, visit [www.davidtaylorquilts.com](http://www.davidtaylorquilts.com)

Photo by: Ken Proper

 "I was thrilled to win an Honorable Mention in the 2007 pictorial category at the Houston IQA Festival." —DAVID TAYLOR