

## Rafina Canyon, Kirtland, New Mexico

*Diné (Navajo) Nation  
Jewelry – Textile*



I was born and raised on the Navajo Reservation at a place called Sanostee, New Mexico. I am a mother and a grandmother and married for 33 years. In 1990 I took an interest in silversmith and took training at Shiprock Adult Education Center for 6 months. After I completed my silversmith training, I started slowly to make jewelry pieces

with very few tools. After making several pieces, I taught myself to make different styles of traditional jewelry. I started doing art shows in October 1993 and have attended many Indian Market shows and arts & crafts shows far and near. In 2003 my father had some health issues and he needed help and so did my mother. I set aside my jewelry business to care for them. After the passing of both of my parents I started my self-employment as a silversmith with the jewelry business. I do try to weave some Two-Grey Hill Rugs, although it is time consuming. I do enter some of my jewelry pieces and my rug weavings in the jury shows. This is an awesome learning experience and an encouragement for me to continue with my jewelry business and my rug weavings.

