

BOULDER COUNTY

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**Mary Kathryn & Henry Wood**

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One of our very first dates was climbing in the mountains of North Carolina. I had never attempted a multi-pitch climb before but I said, “Why not?” That two-hour trip turned into four, and we topped out with headlamps on and big grins. That’s kind of our pattern—just say yes, and figure it out as we go.”

— Mary Kathryn Wood



**Adventurers. Educators. Entrepreneurs. Parents. Partners. Now, real estate pros.**

Meet Mary Kathryn and Henry Wood—two Broker Associates at WK Real Estate in Boulder, Colorado—who prove that taking the scenic (and sometimes vertical) route in life can lead to the most rewarding destinations.

“Real estate is not for the faint of heart,” points out Henry. “It has its highs and lows—just like climbing.”

For Mary Kathryn and Henry, their love story began somewhere high above the ground. On one of their first dates, the couple tackled a multi-pitch climb in the mountains of North Carolina. “It was late in the afternoon and I had never attempted a multi-pitch climb before but said, “Why not?” Henry led the pitches and I followed him, awkwardly removing the gear he had placed and confronting a fear of heights in the process. What was supposed to be a two-hour climb turned into four—and ended

in the dark, with headlamps on. “That’s the pattern for us,” she laughs. “We just figure it out.”

Now happily married for 19 years, Mary Kathryn and Henry are thriving in real estate, blending their two unique paths into one.

**Roots in the South, Dreams Out West**

Mary Kathryn’s trail to Colorado was carved well before she met Henry. Born and raised in North Carolina and a UNC-Chapel Hill Tarheel, she says, “I always wanted to be out West—it was in my blood from the moment I went camping for the first time in high school.” She moved to Boulder in 2001 for graduate school, earning a Master’s degree in education and a teaching license. Summers were spent leading teen trips through Moondance Adventures across Alaska, Washington State, and Colorado. “I just had an incredible time being outside, working with teenagers, and exploring the beauty of our country,” she says. “It locked me into Colorado and that lifestyle.”

Henry hails from Atlanta, Georgia, where he attended Georgia State University before serving in the Army. After the military, he spent nearly a decade with North Carolina Outward Bound and the National Outdoor Leadership School in Wyoming, teaching mountaineering, climbing, and horsepacking. In 2002, he returned to Atlanta to assist with the outdoor education program at The Westminster Schools—and that’s when fate stepped in.

The founder of Moondance, a mutual friend, introduced him to Mary Kathryn, who had recently moved to Atlanta to support Moondance full time. “I heard there was this cute girl in town, and I had to meet her,” Henry says with a grin. They began dating in April 2004. That summer, when a co-leader broke his ankle while bouldering, Henry—fully qualified—stepped in. “We were living in a tent for five weeks, backpacking through Olympic National Park and summiting Rainier with a group of teenagers. It was a big launch into our relationship,” says Mary Kathryn.



A year later, they moved back to Boulder together.

### Building a Life in Boulder

In 2005, the couple laid down roots in Boulder. Mary Kathryn landed a teaching job at Summit Middle School, while Henry worked in the outdoor industry in risk management. They welcomed three children in under three years, creating what Mary Kathryn calls “a house full of babies.” (They affectionately call themselves the “Woodpile.”)

During that time, Henry made a bold career leap. “Craft beer was starting to crank,” he says. “I was invited to join Matt Cutter and Dany Page to start Upslope Brewing Company and run sales and marketing. Seventeen years later, it’s still a successful regional craft brewery,” he shares. “We became a home staple and expanded into the whole Rocky Mountain West. It was a wild ride.”

However, in early 2024, Henry stepped away from the beer industry to explore



new passions—well-being, endurance sports, and ultimately, real estate.

Mary Kathryn had stepped away from teaching when their second child was born but returned when the youngest turned three. “We had a 3-, 4-, and 5-year-old,” she says, smiling. She taught

high school for a decade at Peak to Peak Charter School and loved working with teenagers. “I had the great privilege of being part of two schools that were top of their game in everything,” she says.

In spring 2023, she decided to close the teaching chapter. “I’d maxed out what I



could offer a school and didn't want to pursue administration." The answer? Real estate.

### The Leap into Real Estate

With a lifelong connection to education, Mary Kathryn found that the skills she honed in the classroom translated beautifully to real estate. "My clients are sophisticated, intelligent, and well-educated—but the real estate process can be overwhelming and confusing," she explains. "I love being able to break it up into manageable pieces and help them stay on track with deadlines and understand their choices."

Seeing her thrive in this new career inspired Henry to follow suit. "I grew up in real estate. My dad was in it for 50 years," he shares. He earned his license last summer and officially joined Mary Kathryn at WK Real Estate in the

fall. "It's been a great start—we've had amazing clients on both the buying and selling sides."

"We're a team," says Mary Kathryn. Their strengths are complementary—whether one is out showing properties in Boulder County while the other is at a lacrosse game, they have each other's backs. "The double coverage is a great asset to our clients," adds Henry.

They share a desk at WK Real Estate's Boulder office, but most of their work happens in their car, on the phone, or at the kitchen table. "It's not your traditional 8-to-6 job," says Mary Kathryn. "But it's been a lovely surprise to come together in this way."

When not working, they are committed to the community. Mary Kathryn continues to stay involved in education,



serving on the board at Summit Middle School and staying connected to Peak to Peak. In fact, she chaperoned a recent student sea kayaking trip to Baja, blending her love of travel and teaching.

She's also on the board of Thorne Nature Experience, a nonprofit focused on outdoor education for kids. "Helping kids connect with nature is something we care deeply about," she shares.

Henry has served on the Visit Boulder board and continues to stay active in the Boulder outdoor community. He is currently studying to become a certified health and well-being coach through the Anthropedia Foundation in St. Louis.

### Adventure Defines Them

That sense of adventure—the willingness to say yes and figure it out later—still defines them. Whether it's reaching a summit or closing a deal, the sense of satisfaction is still strong. And doing it together? That's priceless.

Mary Kathryn and Henry Wood are going to continue exploring, connecting, and creating community—one home at a time. They couldn't ask for more.

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