

The New Wave Story

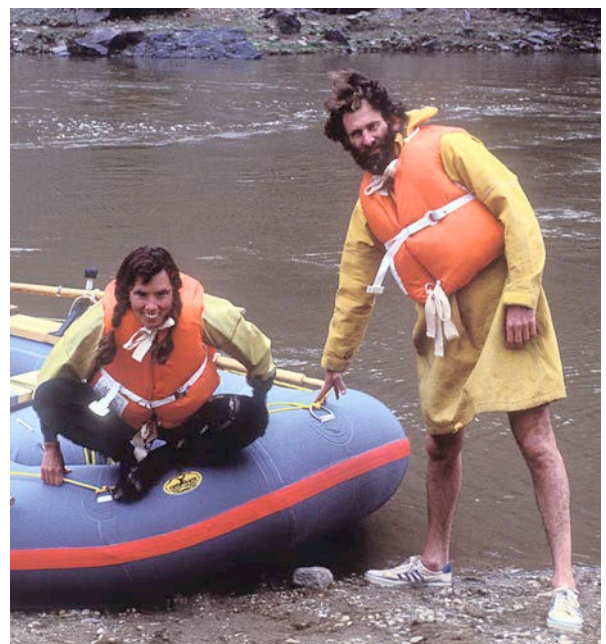
Kathy and Steve Miller started New Wave Rafting Co. in 1980, with one raft, a station wagon and a dream. They were river runners and climbers, and both had worked as instructors for Outward Bound. In the winter they were ski instructors. Their love for rivers was based on early trips down the Colorado River in the Grand Canyon, along with raft and kayaking trips in Colorado and Utah.



left: Kathy wins kayaking medal, Arkansas River, 1979



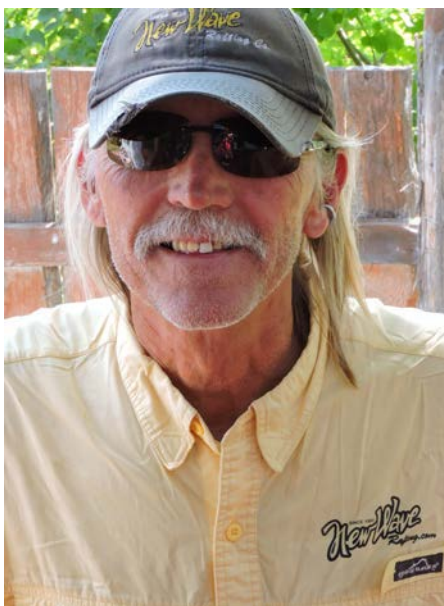
above right: Steve, Arkansas River, 1979



below right: Kathy and Steve, with their first raft, Rio Grande, 1980

The Millers were joined, in 1983, by Britt Runyon Huggins, now New Wave's Operations Manager.

Steve moved to New Mexico in 1976, to create and direct a wilderness therapy program for criminal offenders. It was through this program that Steve first organized raft trips on the Rio Grande. Following that, both Kathy and Steve worked for the Southwest Outward Bound School, located in Santa Fe, which, again, included raft expeditions on the Rio Grande. As it grew, New Wave became a family business. Kathy's kids - Laina and Brahm - grew up rafting and became guides. And the same for Steve's son Ethan.



*left: Britt
above right: Kathy,
Laina and Brahm,
bottom right
below right: Brahm,
Taos Box*





above: Ethan
below: Kathy



After operating out of Santa Fe for 30 years, the Millers moved to the riverside village of Embudo, which put New Wave's headquarters only three miles from their busiest river location! Nowadays, Steve runs New Wave's office, while Kathy sees to logistics and everything else.