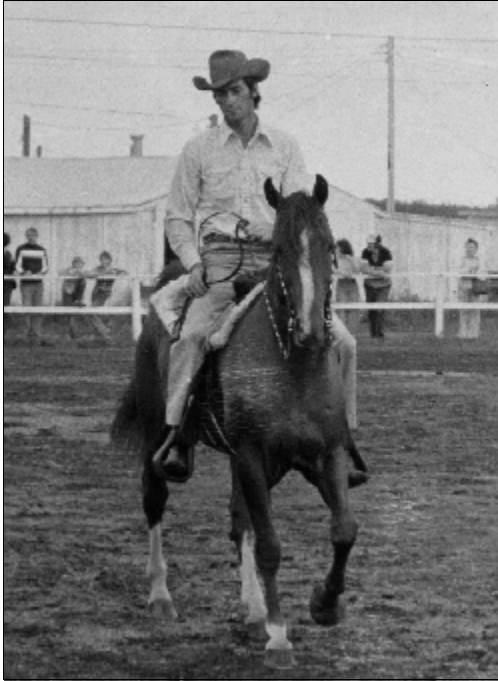


HISTORY & HERITAGE PROJECT 2000

“CANADIAN TIMES OF THE TWH”

Laddie's Monte Ray by Jo-Anne McDonald, Pouce Coupe, B.C.



'RAY' was foaled at Elmo, Montana on May 22, 1968, the property of Pearl Tompkins. Ray's dam was the pretty yellow mare, Golden Gold Glory and his sire was Pearl's stallion, Montana Laddie. Ray was his first foal. Ray was named for the two veterinarians who cared for Pearl's horses, Dr. Ray Read and Dr. Ray Keyser.

Pearl sold Ray as a yearling to Allan and Shirley Ball of Kindersley, Saskatchewan. It was while he lived there that Brenda Baker made his acquaintance, taking her mare to Ray for breeding. He also sired a number of Walking Ponies while in Saskatchewan, and the TWH stallion, Prairie Breeze, who would work so well for Jack Chapman of Stettler, Alberta. Prairie Breeze (aka Chinook) was out of the great brood mare, Shadow's Lyrical, also from Pearl's ranch.

Ellwood Smith of Donalda, Alberta bought Ray from the Balls on December 24, 1973. It was quite a Christmas gift! Ray sired most of his foals at this time in Alberta. It was during this period that he sired Jack Gurnett's handsome stallion, Kary's Jeepers and his sister, many times Alberta

Produce of Dam winner, Sunday Breeze. These horses became well known in their own right.

Ray made one more move – that being to our farm (McDonald Farms near Pouce Coupe) in June of 1977. The first few years we had him we did everything with him. He was shown some, and in the process was named Grand Champion Tennessee Walker at the 1980 Lloydminster show. We were certainly proud of this beautiful horse.

Ray was beautiful in every sense – he had a really gentle nature and would do anything you asked. His biggest phobia was needles. He hated getting his shots!

Ray was retired from showing and used extensively for breeding. He would occasionally be brought out, curried and saddled up to give someone a taste of the “Glide Ride” – and he could do it in style. A kind and willing stallion that anyone could ride any time.

In his last years Ray gave us some extraordinary foals, fillies mostly. We have a daughter of Ray and Little Toot Wilson that we wouldn't part with for anything. Ray also gave us a spotted palomino, Monterey Gold, who became a noted broodmare in her time.

Ray was fat and sassy when he took sick and died in 1989, at the relatively young age of 21. Horses come and go, but in our hearts there will never be another Laddie's Monte Ray.

