

Jean Fredrich

2017 NDQHA Hall of Fame Inductee

Jean (Jeanie) Fredrich was born on November 6, 1941 in Minot, North Dakota. She grew up in Donnybrook, North Dakota, but has spent the majority of her life with her husband Larry on a ranch near Des Lacs, North Dakota.

Jean showed cattle and sheep as a youth and has always been involved with animals in one way or another. Her love of horses began with grade horses that she used for pleasure riding. Jean wasn't interested in showing horses, but she always supported her children, Kim and Deb, who competed at 4-H and open shows around the state. They showed horses, cattle and even bunny rabbits.

Years ago North Dakota State Fair manager, Jerry Iverson, needed help running the horse shows in Minot, and Jean gladly volunteered her time. That was her introduction to horse show management. Very quickly her name became a common fixture on horse show posters of every breed, including North Dakota Quarter Horse Association posters. Her daughter, Deb Raszler, was usually by her side serving as horse show secretary.

It didn't matter if you were a family showing for fun or the serious horse person chasing points, everyone was very important to Jean. Over the years she was affectionately known at horse shows as Grandma Jeanie. In fact, her official North Dakota State Fair badge read "Grandma Jean Horseshow." In her role as a horse show manager, she helped raised many children, and eventually their children, as well. Jean has always been a lover of horses *and* the people who run up and down the road with them.

For many years Jean also served as secretary for the KMOT Ag Expo in Minot. In 1999 she was named Horsewoman of the Year by the Red River Horse Breeders Association, and in 2010 Jean was awarded a pin for 30 years of service to the North Dakota State Fair.

Jean retired as a horse show manager in 2013. She and her family have raised Holstein cow-calf pairs and Pembroke Welsh Corgi dogs for many years, and she enjoys gardening during the summer months.