

# STALL OF FAME & HONOUR ROLL HORSE

## J S DUKE

by Judy Saunders



J S Duke

CAHR #21339 AHRA #229035  
Chestnut, Gelding, Foaled May 3, 1981

By Amir Ibn Anwarr out of \*Andenia

Bred, raised, trained, ridden and loved by Judy Saunders

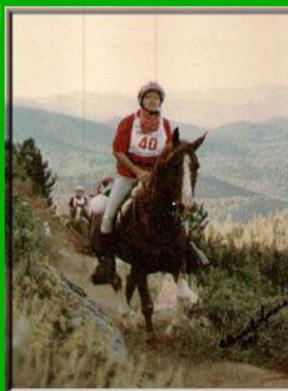
*"My biggest embarrassment/my greatest source of pride"*

Shattering my dreams of a grey filly, Duke made his dramatic entrance into this world, with his pink nose resting on a white leg that seemed to never end ...the first chestnut in at least three generations of greys on either side. An insecure colt, he continued to "clack" his lips in submission at any other horse until he was well into his third year. Awkwardly growing "high in the hind end", Duke finally sprouted pronounced withers at age three...accentuating an unmistakable sway-back! Thus my brief horse breeding career ended and I was left with the responsibility of a horse that no one would want. To add injury to insult, Duke displayed an early aptitude for accidents...crashing through a solid board fence, receiving a fractured frontal bone from a perfectly placed horseshoe and fracturing a splint bone while tearing around the pasture. As the veterinary bills mounted, we reached the point of no return with Duke (...and I was somehow also drawn into a new career direction.) Fortunately, Len Brown had just started up Ortho-Flex saddles and agreed to custom build a saddle to a mold of Duke's back. From that point on, the sway-back was a non-issue except for the comments and reactions from those who had never seen Duke before. Jokingly dubbed "Duke the Wonderhorse" in the early days, Duke never seemed to doubt his right to the title as he carried me far beyond my greatest expectations.

J S Duke competed in OCTRA recognized events for 14 consecutive seasons, from 1986 to 1999. He earned 90 ride completions in his career: 47 endurance, 35 competitiveness, 7 ride 'n' ties and 1 mileage ride. Eighty percent of these were Top Ten finishes, including wins in all 3 disciplines, 2 Sweepstakes, 2 Reserve Sweepstakes and 5 Best Conditions.

### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:

- 3693 lifetime OCTRA miles
- 2685 lifetime AERC miles
- AERC Decade Team
- OCTRA Year End Top Ten Endurance: 1988, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1995, 1996
- OCTRA Year End Top Endurance Horse: 1992
- OCTRA Year End Reserve High Point Endurance Horse: 1996
- OCTRA Year End High Point Best Condition Horse: 1996
- OCTRA Year End Reserve High Point Best Condition Horse: 1998
- OCTRA Year End High Point Purebred Arabian: 1998
- FEI North American Endurance Championships:  
1989 - Flesherton ON: 18th place individual - Canada East  
1991 - Carson City NV: Silver Medal Team - Canada East - Top Ten finisher  
1993 - Kananaskis AB: Bronze Medal Team - Canada East  
Short-listed for 1995 Flagstaff AZ and 1997 Bend OR
- 1994 World Equestrian Games, Den Haag: member of Canadian Endurance Team
- AERC Northeast Region 2nd Place Best Condition Horse: 1996
- AHAEAC Reserve High Point Competitive and Endurance Horse: 1996



From left to right (mounted): Judy Saunders/J S Duke; Julie Phair/Kabar Raftah; Earle Baxter/Rushereek Pawnee; Danette Jennings/Camanche; Garnet Gallant/Rasquell; Nancy Beacon/Traverston Sadat. Front row (holding sign): Marion Shearer, Di Lindblad, Dr. Arthur King, Herbert Welzel

The following summarizes many of Duke's accomplishments under the appropriate nomination criteria:

1. *OCTRA Year End Top Five in any two of the three disciplines for at least two years.*  
- 5 times Year End Top Ten Endurance. Of these, he has been Top Five at least 3 times (1990, 1991, 1992) and was Top Endurance Horse in 1992. I have not been able to locate the rankings for 1988 and 1995. - 1992 Year End Top Five Ride 'n' Tie (according to my calculations).
2. *A consistent record demonstrating a high completion rate.*  
- has competed in the past 10 consecutive ride seasons: - 2826 total lifetime miles - 2586 total OCTRA miles - 69 total lifetime rides (1 mileage, 38 endurance, 24 competitive, 6 ride 'n' tie) - 60 total OCTRA rides (1 mileage, 29 endurance, 24 competitive, 6 ride 'n' tie) - completion rates: - overall:  $63/69 = 91\%$  - overall endurance:  $34/38 = 89\%$  - OCTRA:  $57/60 = 95\%$  - mileage & competitive:  $25/25 = 100\%$  - endurance:  $28/29 = 96.5\%$  - ride 'n' tie:  $4/6 = 67\%$  (both incompletes were Ron's fault, of course)
3. *Horse has been short listed for a national or international event more than once.*  
- short listed for 3 North American Championships (1991, 1993, 1995) and 1 World Championship (1994) - completed 3 North American Championships (1989, 1991, 1993): - 1991 NAC: - Top Ten - Silver Medal Team - 1993 NAC: - Bronze Medal Team - first Canada East horse to finish
4. *A record of longevity and performance. For example, the horse has been in competition for more than five years with 80% or greater top ten finishes.*  
- Duke has been in competition for past ten consecutive years (and still going strong) - he has won rides in each of the three disciplines as well as Best Condition, High Vet Score, Sweepstakes and Reserve Sweepstakes - OK, from here on in things get a little complicated, depending on which figures you use... - Top Ten Finishes in past 10 years: (excluding mileage ride as no placings awarded) - overall:  $52/68 = 76\%$  ( $52/63 = 82.5\%$  of finishes) - OCTRA:  $46/59 = 78\%$  ( $46/57 = 80.7\%$  of finishes) - Top Ten Finishes in 5 year period (1990-1994): -endurance alone: - overall:  $19/21 = 90.5\%$  - OCTRA:  $18/19 = 94.7\%$



*J. S. Duke*