

Good Bye Friend

Our friendship began years ago that was nurtured in love of horses and passion for dressage. Gail was new to dressage at that time and yet unstoppable in her quest to learn all aspects of the sport. Her enthusiasm for dressage was extreme. Gail never stopped her need to learn more and more. Who could keep up? I envied her drive. I admired her progress. I was proud of her accomplishments. I was honored to call her friend.

Gail took Thunder-her Morgan Appaloosa-Cross to 2nd level through dedication and hard work. She worked 12-hour days and then came home to work three horses. She was a wonderful wife to her husband Jim and a dedicated mother to her children Kasi and Daniel. She was very active in her church. She was a member of the Northeast Chapter of WDCTA. She was a 4-H leader. She gardened. The list is long. How many of us could do this? And she made you feel special and gave you her total attention.

At her funeral I was struck by how many people were there. Were all these people touched by Gail the same way I was? Of course they were. Gail had that ability to reach out to so many people and make us all feel special. So many people-one short life. Like a shooting star that we catch a glimpse of in the night sky; we stop and watch and can't keep our eyes off the journey and then-just like that; it is gone. Gail-we are better for having known you. We never thought we wouldn't see you again. And yet-we know we will see you again. We'll see you in the barn and the way we treat each other and how we approach our horses and our riding. You made a difference in our lives and we never had a chance to say what an inspiration you were to us or to say Thank You.

We love you and miss you, Gail.
See you at X. Julie