

Berreta Sugar Doc – His Story

By Franchelle Wisnewski

On November 3, one of Montana's best cutting horses was laid to rest at the home of his owners, Johnny, Franchelle, and Phillip Wisnewski. Beretta Sugar Doc, aka "Studley" was 28 years old. For those that competed in the early 90's all will remember him. Recently he had a tumor in his sinus cavity that wasn't fixable so we knew what we had to do. Tom Campbell, Bill Murphy, Kathy Foote, John and Dorothy Seymour, Ronnie Kellum and Vicki, Kathy Markette, the Lee family and many others knew this horse very well. We will miss him terrible as he was one of our family.

"Studley" was trained by his owner, Johnnie Wisnewski, in Texas. He was shown at the futurity and all the aged events after that. He was 5th in the world in the 3,000 Novice Horse class in 1989 with Johnnie riding him. We moved him to Montana in July of 1991 and he and I were the Non Pro Champion for Area 4. In 1996 we were the 20,000 Non Pro Champion and 5th at the area workoffs that year too in Ogden. Ronnie and Vicki Kellum were my trainers here in Montana as Johnnie retired from training and went hunting (LOL). Also in 1996 we won the year end saddle with the MCHA. We also put on a few celebrity cuttings here in Kalispell and Lynn Anderson rode him in the celebrity cutting and won it. At Big Timber Michael Keaton rode him in the 2000 Novice Rider class and won it and that was Michael's first check in cutting. Tom Campbell and Bill Murphy also showed him a time or two for me.

His mom was the great producing mare, Miss Beretta that we owned. Docs Lady Wilson and Miss Shorty Lena were two of her awesome daughters. I own a granddaughter of Docs Lady Wilson now and hopefully she can fill Studley's shoes.

We retired him from cutting and started team penning and sorting with him. I won numerous buckles, blankets, etc. He took my son, Phillip Wisnewski to be reserve Junior Youth Champion in the United States Team Penning Club for the whole United States.

Studley was one of the family and touched so many lives. He was our best friend. He taught so many how to ride and compete with confidence. Everyone that knew him, knew that he was one of a kind and very special to us all. On his 28th birthday last April, I took him to a sorting practice and led him through the cows and he pinned his ears and wanted to cut them. He had an awesome life and we were very fortunate to own such a great horse. I've always heard that you have that one Great horse in your lifetime and Studley was definitely mine and Phillip's. Recently, I knew something wasn't right with him and we found out he had a tumor in his sinus cavity and there was no fixing it. He was laid to rest on Saturday, November 3. He is buried at our place.

