



Mr. James Wallace Brandon

December 11, 1926 - August 26, 2019

James Wallace Brandon age 92, of Shelbyville, Tennessee passed away Monday, August 26, 2019, at his home surrounded by his loving family and friends.

He was born December 11, 1926 in Akron, Ohio. Wallace was a graduate of Woodbury High School in Woodbury, Tennessee. He was always adamant and faithful to attend his Sunday morning Baptist church service, regardless where the horseshow was on Saturday night. His love for horses began after his father bought him his first pony at the age of 10. It continued to blossom and at the age of 18, he became a Tennessee Walking Horse trainer.

After numerous jobs and mentors, he began his dream of owning and operating his own stable at Hickory Hill Farm in Franklin, Tennessee. It was a huge success for 50 years producing numerous world champions for himself, as well as amateur and youth riders.

In 1954, Wallace put his name in the history books and not only won his 1st World Grand Championship, Midnight Minister, but 4 World Grand Champions. Among the many Champions he rode, were 1969 Aged Stallion Champion Reserve World Grand Champion, Sensational Shadow; 1976 Three-Year-Old Grand Champion, Ebony's Darlin Lady; and more recently the Multi World Grand Champion in the Plantation Pleasure Division, Pusher's Benny Boy and Stripper's Finale. Later in his career, he began training flat shod horses. He was a pioneer of the Flat Shod Division, riding the 1st Lite Shod Plantation World Grand Champion, Heaping Spoonful in 1989.

Wallace, fondly known as "Cuz", was the 6th person inducted into the 1983 Celebration Hall of Fame. The Roast of Wallace Brandon was the 1st event held at the Celebration's Blue Ribbon Circle Club after its opening in 1983. Wallace was a Walking Horse Trainers Association (WHTA) 1968 founding Charter Member, Lifetime Member, 1979-1980 President, 1997 Trainer of the Year, 2004 and 2011 Friendship Club Inductee (only one to ever receive twice) and received it's 2017 Living Legend Lifetime Achievement Award.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Jim and Frances Lester Brandon of Woodbury, TN; daughters, Debora Brandon Harris of Lebanon, TN, Janice Brandon Huffman of Ft. Worth, TX, and Laura Alison English of Franklin, TN; and daughter-in-law, Constance Brandon of Olive Branch, MS.

He is survived by his loving wife of 53 years, Laura Moreton Brandon; sons James Wallace Brandon, Jr. and James Robert English, III; sons-in-law Richard Harris and Josh (Jane)Huffman; sisters-in-law Valentine (Ovidio) Pugnale and Charlotte Sledge; brother-in-law David (Diane) Moreton; grandchildren Shelly Linville (Robert) Bryan, Ashley (Corey) Hawkins, Brandon (Brittany) Huffman, Taylor (Aaron) Walker, Kelly Dawn (Brandon) Bass, Cody-Dale (Michael) Claridy and Justin Brandon; Thirteen (13) great grandchildren; Four (4) great-great Grandchildren; and numerous beloved nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Life for Mr. Brandon will be held on Sunday, September 8, 2019 with service starting at 3:00pm and reception to follow in the Blue Ribbon Circle Club on the Celebration Grounds at 1110 North Evans Street, Shelbyville, TN 37160. Josh Huffman and Pastor Steve Murphee will be speaking.

Feldhaus Memorial Chapel is assisting the family.

Comments



“ One word described Wallace “ Class”.
He prepared his horses ,his amateur riders as well as himself to be sharp and ready to go
My condolences to the family

M.L. Pugh - August 29, 2019 at 01:29 PM



“ My first celebration was my high school graduation gift from my parents. I remember when I saw Wallace it was like seeing a movie star! I had all the papers and magazines preparing for my trip and I recognized all the famous trainers and horses and couldn't shut my eyes to sleep for fear I'd miss one of them riding on the hill after the show or early morning. I've enjoyed the friendship over the years of Wallace and Laura Lou. The horse business has lost another great trainer and he will be missed by all. RIP "Cuz". I smile just thinking about what is going on in heaven this week with all of them!

Joyce Myers - August 27, 2019 at 03:50 PM



“ Wallace was a class act and a very talented horse trainer. I always will remember the special summer I had working at hickory hill farm. There was never a dull moment , and so much experience was learned from riding and training , and showing My heart goes out to Laura Lou and Jim and all the family. I will always cherish the great conversations and advice and Wallace would give me along with his particular laugh ! Rip cuz

alice klein - August 27, 2019 at 08:02 PM



“ I am an adopted chid of Geneva and James Wallace.. my sweet wonderful sister in Christ, Janice Brandon Huffman, was their daughter. I consider myself an adoptive child of the family I loved to know that I was a part of the family. But now I am so glad to know that Janice is again reaquainted with her dad in the heavenlieys ! !God bless and be with all the family of Janice that I know and didn't know! He knows who who are all!!

Kay - August 27, 2019 at 11:54 PM



“ Prayers and condolences to the families and friends. May God be with each of you too help your heavy broken heart's and comfort you in your loss. God bless

Shelia boisseau - August 28, 2019 at 10:40 AM