



*Congratulations to*  
**Hoss Frank**  
*for being Inducted into the*  
***2020 USTPA Hall of Fame!***



# Hall of Fame

## Congratulations to this Year's Inductee!

Reba...Vince....Garth....Blake...Super Stars! Just say their first names...one word...and we know who you are talking about. Say Hoss and if you are from Morrison, Oklahoma, or the Team Penning world you know who we are talking about! You might find him still out swathing or baling hay or maybe delivering a load of rock, 87 years young and still going at it.



Loyal Dean "Hoss" Frank was born during the worst year of the Great Depression, 1933. Horse & Mule teams were still used for much of the farming. The majority of Hoss's childhood days were spent on the back of a horse. He was better known in his early years as "Horsey" and it was apparent at an early age that he loved horses. On nice days, he would ride his horse to the one-room schoolhouse that he attended about a mile down the road. He would tie old 'Star' up to the hitching post under the shade tree. The story has it, that Horsey got his nickname from the kids at school. Star would "knicker" when he heard Loyal's voice through the window of the schoolhouse, the kids would laugh and giggle and soon started calling him Horsey...the name stuck!

In 1953, shortly after graduation he was drafted into the Army, spending 2 years of active duty during the Korean War. On his return to Oklahoma, he spent one year in the Army Reserves and another five years in the National Guard. His college career then began at

Stillwater, Oklahoma, A&M becoming an Aggie. Oklahoma A&M soon became Oklahoma State University and so evolved the Cowboys and his love for Cowboy football! He graduated in 1960 with a bachelor's degree in Ag Education. He loves to tell people he started at a college as an Aggie, and graduated from a University as a Cowboy.



While attending OSU he met a young city gal from Tulsa, OK, the love of his life, Carolyn Duke who he married in 1958. 'Hoss and Duke' as they affectionately became known, have 4 children. Jeff, Jan Lesh, Joe



& Becky Jo. All of his children rode horses growing up, but 1 son, Jeff became extremely active in team roping. An oilfield injury to the right shoulder prevented Hoss from throwing a loop anymore. Despite the injury, Hoss remained

an avid horseman. He was the one that all the Ranchers in the community called to gather cattle, sort and work them, taking his grandchildren along to help.

Fast forward a few years..... about 1988, Hoss learned of Team Penning from a local Rodeo Clown who had seen it in California, they found a Western Horseman magazine with rules and after roping numbered the steers and put on the first local Team Penning, he was hooked!!!! He could do with a busted up shoulder, his horse, and



his grandkids! Jeff had 2 and Jan had 5 at the time (Jordan hadn't made his appearance yet!).



Hoss put on a few practices and then a few shows and got several local horse people and relatives interested. A few guys near OKC started the Oklahoma Team Penning Association about 1991, not long after Sooner State TPA appeared. Members of both he and his daughter Jan



hauled kids all over the state of Oklahoma every weekend, they also produced shows once a month. He was blessed to be in the Great State of Oklahoma, where at the time,

some of the greats of Team Penning came from: Shelley Fitzgerald, David Hall Mike Vanzant, Mark Morris, and Donnie Wynne.

He may have started with some of the great names in the sport, but he definitely feels like he has ended with some of the greatest names in the sport. He is also ever so proud of all his grandkids, and feeling extremely honored to be called Grandpa by Jared, Jamin, Joel, and Jordan Lesh who are or have been top riders in this great sport along with their spouses: Megan, Colette, and Katie Lesh. And now a whole new generation, the 3rd generation, great-grandkids: McKenzie, Jackson, and Preston. Several year USPTA members, and now Carson Lesh, Jenna's son have joined and have already put a few wins under his new belt buckles! 3-year-old, Jake Lesh, son of Jamin and Megan, just made his sorting debut in September.



Always an avid supporter of the USTPA, Hoss rode and helped produce along with daughter Jan the first shows held in Oklahoma. Now, his grandchildren produce those same shows to the present day. AQHA has also been a big part of Hoss's Team Penning history, riding and qualifying for the World show for 21 years, accumulating over 1,900-lifetime points, and riding in over 680 AQHA shows. Bringing home 4 Bronze Globes, 3 top 5 wins, 7 top 10 wins and making it to the finals 25 more times! Many of those world show trips were alongside his son Jeff. He also participated at the Palomino World Show where he took home the coveted GOLD globe and placing in the top 3 for many years.

Huge prestigious shows were popping up everywhere! He and his favorite partners, the Lesh Brothers, traveled all over the United States making memories that will last a lifetime. He has been Team Penning and Ranch Sorting for more than 31 years, and has accumulated too many buckles, prizes, ribbons, jackets and awards to recall. If there were ever an award given for "loving the sport more than anyone else" it would have been awarded to Hoss Frank! There wasn't a person attending that he wouldn't ride with. Promoting this great family sport by sharing with so many friends and relatives and developing friendships that have lasted his lifetime.



Hoss debuted one last time at the famous Lazy E Arena last year, 2019, where his favorite 'greats' of the sport rode with him: Jared, Jordan, and wife Katie. Jamin, Megan, and other grandchildren were there to help him on his horse and to cheer him on!

Just say oe bae, Hoss, in this Team Penning World and if you've been around awhile you know who we are talking about. What a ride this Cowboy has had! One fantastic wife, four children, eight grandchildren, fifteen great grandchildren, a slew of relatives that have loved the sport, and a whole USTPA Family. What more does a man need!



## USTPA Hall of Fame Mission Statement

1. Honor the Heroes of Team Penning and Ranch Sorting. We shall recognize and honor those individuals who have made an impact on our sport and our members.
2. Celebrate Excellence. We shall enshrine those who excelled and made our sport better.
3. Preserve our History. We shall honor those who sacrificed and worked whenever they were asked without personal reward.
4. Promote USTPA Values. Family, teamwork, leadership, excellence, horsemanship, community and sportsmanship.

