



*Congratulations to*  
**Larry Kling**  
*for being Inducted into the*  
**2020 USTPA Hall of Fame!**



# Hall of Fame

## Congratulations to this Year's Inductee!

I was born on December 10, 1945 in Western North Dakota. I tell my friends and family that still live there that you have to be tough to stay.



My father was a pure rancher cowboy, and as a result I lived in cow camps was trained as a ranch hand. Since we were always isolated, I learned how to entertain myself riding stick horses, and exploring the hilts and coulees nearby. I had the experience of attending one-room schoolhouses and having my own mother teach me all eight years. We lived in the country, so I rode my horse or walked several miles to school. There was more than one-time we students were stranded at the school when there



were blizzards. One time, we were there until rescued by the National Guard! I remember we had a big sack of potatoes, so mom had us bake them by the wood burning stove.

I lived in town so that I could attend high school graduating in 1963 and then onto college for two years. It was during

that time I met Colleen, my wife of nearly 53 years. Our Dad's both ran cattle on reservation leases, and it was because of that connection we met in 1964. We married in December three years later. We have two children. A son Shawn who lives in Franklin, Tennessee and a daughter Heather from Anaheim, CA. One grandson Carson, and three granddaughters, Moorea, Mercedes, and Madison, and two great-grandchildren Cash and Emerson. The Bible tells us a man is blessed with his children's children. I am indeed!

I began a career in trucking. First hauling livestock, then transitioning to hauling mobile homes. Colleen encouraged me to get into management, so soon I began what turned out to be years as a dispatcher, regional manager and eventually became president of a nationwide company. We longed for Idaho, so in 1983 we started our own company which eventually became a nationwide company. We got bought out in 1996 and I couldn't have been happier, because now we were free to basically retire.



Both Colleen and I came from Ranch and rodeo families, and we always had horses around and at the urging of my brother-in-law Hal Johnsrud. We tried the new sport called team penning. We were pretty well hooked right off. We tried our luck locally then started traveling on a national level. We had every kind of traveling rig from living quarter horse trailers, buses, motorhomes, and over the road tractors. We were pretty serious about it as we hit the circuit from Illinois to Mississippi and all points west. It was during those times we forged many relationships that we hold dear to this day.

I always believed in putting back into the sport, so I was always involved in boards locally and then on a national basis. It wasn't long before we got into producing penning, sorting, as well as other cow horse events. Old smooth-talking Dick Rosell talked me into running for president of USTPA in 1997. Prior to this time,



I served as VP and west coast director for three years I was instrumental in starting the contestant number rating system, which was quite a task in and of itself. We also worked really hard on the regional finals as well as the national finals, and I always enjoyed promoting it. To me, it was more rewarding to put on a good show than it was to win it as a contestant. I tell people every buckle I won cost me at least \$10,000 and every saddle \$30,000. A couple of highlights were when Hal Johnsrud, Ed Machado, and I won the 1995 ATPC open finals at Guthrie. As amateurs, Colleen and I teamed up with Hal winning Mediflight, which was a great win because we competed with the greats of the game. You get lucky once in a while. We continued going up and down the road competing on a national level. We quit and went cutting for a few years until sorting came into its own and are competing in as many shows as we can.

I know I can speak for Colleen to say we count ourselves blessed to have been associated with USTPA and I want to thank you for the honor of being recognized by you all. It has been a privilege to have known you and worked with you to improve our sport. The fact that you recognize us old duffers is very, very special. Thank you.





## 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.

