

Dick Adams



Dick's love of horse began when he was a boy. His parents always had horses around to ride recreationally for him and his brother. He began farming with his dad in 1956.

Twenty years later he decided he wanted to begin competing in Quarter Horse shows and purchased his first registered Quarter Horse, Easter Skip Too, who under the guidance of Don Ellis, became an AQHA champion. In 1978, after seeing Pretty Impressive at Charlie and John Dobbs, he decided he wanted to transition into the halter horse division. With Charlie's help, he sold Easter Skip Too, and purchased his first two broodmares to breed to Pretty Impressive. In 1979, he had his eye on a young stallion named Impressive Buda. That fall he purchased the stallion at Congress from Jerry Wells and he went on to win the AQHA World Championship that year. In 1980, Dick had the first set of babies he had bred and raised. The 1980 foal crop produced Easter Impressive by Pretty Impressive that Charlie led and finished in the Top Ten in the Yearling mare class at the 1981 World Championship Show. In addition to the excitement of the first foal crop that year also brought the loss of Impressive Buda.

In early 1981, he saw the best horse he had ever seen at Jerry Wells, a stallion named Sonny Go Te. He purchased the horse and later sold half interest to Clark Rassi, and they stood him at Adams Farms in the early eighties before selling him to Joe Edge. The horse went on to produce multiple World Champions and superior halter horses and world champion producing broodmares. In the mid eighties, Dick became president of IQHA and was one of the founding stallion owners of the Super Stakes halter futurity. In the late eighties, he purchased Just Sonny, a stallion that went on to produce superior halter horses, Sold Gold Futurity winners and multiple IQHA futurity winners. He also purchased Shes Makin Money from Chip Knost and she became a Reserve World Champion that produced his Congress Champion stallion, Solomon Securitee in 1994.

In 1995 he had a dispersal sale that cut back his number of horses from 55 to less than 10 and planned to never have any more than that again. However as his grandson's interest in the horses grew, so did the number of horses again! In 2001 he purchased the first of many broodmares from Clark Rassi. One mare was only 3 months old at the time, but Dick's instincts were right, she went on to produce his first World Champion that he had bred and raised, Say CK. Throughout that decade his broodmare band also produced two Reserve World Champion mares, My Secret Crush and Top Angelina, and a Reserve World Champion Stallion, I Gotta Cool Secret. Each year Dick most enjoys the excitement of having new babies born on the farm and sharing his love of horses with his son Rick, and grandson Trent.

Dick has always been involved in IQHA activities, whether by serving as president, donating his stallion services to the Illinois Breeders Futurity of supporting Illinois shows. Dick Adams is a kind and fair man, who loves his horses, and we are proud to induct him into the 2011 IQHA Hall of Fame.