Debra Yount (Debbie or Deb), daughter of Betty Yount of Altoona and the late Barry

Yount, has the honor of being inducted into the Iowa Horseman’s Hall of Fame. Deb is the 4th family

member inducted into the Horsemen’s Hall of Fame that her Grandfather, Wilbur Yount, established in 1958.

Debbie was born as the fourth generation family that showed American Saddlebred horses and

Hackney ponies throughout the Midwest. By the time Debbie could walk, she lived in the Barn. Debbie started riding at the age of 5, one of her dad’s hackney

ponies. At the age of 8, Debbie’s parents purchased her first American Saddlebred horse, Charlie Brown,

from Dr Alan Raun. Deb’s favorite horse shows were: Dairy Cattle Congress, Denver Stock Show,

St Louis Charity in Queeny Park, the one day shows like Kelloge, Zearing and Monroe Iowa and of

course, the American Royal --- but once her Uncle Marion VandeWall became Show manager, Debbie

couldn’t show but she enjoyed helping him at the show. Debbie showed Harness ponies, Harness

horses, road ponies, 3 and 5 gated horses, pleasure horses, western pleasure and she showed in

Equitation classes. Debbie’s favorite horse was Overlook Stonewall, her Equitation horse purchased

from the Colburn Family when Debbie moved into the 14-17 Equitation age group.

Debbie started catch riding and driving for Dr Alan Raun, Dick Wallen, Rick Wallan,

Bill Sutton, Gib Marcucci, and Ray and Bob Townsend. Debbie’s father Barry, would take Debbie

with him when he went to shoe horses and Debbie would practice riding horses for the barn he was

shoeing for. Debbie still catch drives for Rise & Shine Stables of Mitchellville, Iowa.

Every weekend for Debbie was filled with horses; from showing her Dad’s customers’ horses to driving

her Grandfather coast to coast for him to judge shows, to traveling with her Aunt and Uncle, Bev and

Marion VandeWall, helping with the MOS (computer Software services for tabulating the 3 judge card scoring).

Debbie grew up behind the scenes of the Iowa State Fair Horse Dept as her grandfather, Wilbur

Yount, was on the Fair Board for 25 years and managed the Horse show department for 30 yrs. Debbie

would order sawdust, wrote out the stall charts, organized the ribbons and trophy for the evening shows

and drive her grandfather around the horse barn in his golf cart.

Debbie introduced her daughter Jade to showing when Jade was 4 yrs old.

Jade started riding and showing American Saddlebreds at Greenwood Stables in Norwalk, Iowa when

she was 7 yrs old. Today Jade still shows out of Greenwood Stables barn.

Besides showing horses Debbie was all conference Basketball and softball player for Southeast

Polk High School, Runnells, Ia. Debbie went on and played Softball and Basketball for 4 years at

Simpson College, Indianola, Iowa. Debbie was inducted into the Simpson College Athletic Hall of Fame

for Basketball and Softball in 1986.

Debbie is a member of the USEF, UPHA, AHSA, IHSA, ASHA, and American Hackney Horse

Society. Debbie served on the board for Iowa State University Equine, Simpson College Athletic Hall of

Fame, National Wellness Council, and committee member for the Iowa Horse Council, Horse Fair.

Debbie resides in Uptown Acres outside of Altoona, boarding horses and lives for the barn and 14 head of animals!