

## Hey Neighbor



# For The Love Of Horses

By Frank J. Buchman

## A Tribute To Our True Friend And Great Partner

Strong relationships can exist between a cowboy and his stallion.

When our longtime Quarter Horse sire passed away recently, we lost a close friend and important partner. Zane was his call name, and few actually knew the 27-year-old gray stallion's registered name was Trouble Steel Bar.

Besides our personal strong affection for the stud, there was commensurate admiration among those who were ever affiliated with Zane in one way or another. Our be-  
reavement was shared by many. Not the least of those feeling the loss are the many mares, girlfriends we might contend, that Zane serviced in his lifetime.

Already a five-year-old before we became acquainted, Zane was bred, owned and standing for a lifelong breeder in Lone Rock, Iowa. Our search was for a

main incentive behind Zane's purchase.

Unlike most horses we've bought, the decision wasn't immediate for Zane. We made a second trip northeast and came home with him. Already a proven sire, he was hand mated to 25 mares during his first season with us.

Then Zane went to the pasture and didn't like coming out. Oh, he didn't mind being caught, handled, ridden and driven, but when it came to doing his business as a stallion, Zane

much preferred to do it "his way, when and where he wanted."

Attempts to hand or pen mate him, like many stallions are managed, didn't fit Zane's fancy. He wasn't mean or anything, but Zane evidently just didn't like to love in public. The stud could be stalled for several days and get some

gray stallion, with emphasis on color, along with quality and disposition, more than performance ability and pedigree.

Our heroes and customers, E.C. Roberts and Russell Klotz, as well as friend Duane Walker, raised gray horses. They insisted that color added dollars at sale time, which was our

servicing done. He was even collected and mated artificially a few times. Zane liked his pasture ritual best by far.

Terrific to ride, Zane was a fine ranch horse. Fond memories also come from driving him for family buggy rides, in parades and at our son's wedding leaving the church. Zane one time even portrayed Tom Mix's white horse, Tony II, in a local pageant. He was much better than we were as Tom.

His main purpose was breeding, and Zane was a true sire in every sense of the word.

Zane's progeny included 275 registered Quarter Horses and at least another 31 Pinto and grade foals. That does not take into account this year's

crop, which should number 14. Most stallions can't claim near that many offspring.

Best thing about it is that Zane's get have his super disposition, conformation and performance ability. Majority of them are gray. They certainly are "The Cowboy's Kind," our horse breeding trademark.

Several of Zane's get have been shown in registered competition and collected a notable number of points. His production has made top riders for family, ranch, trail riding and open shows, plus being excellent breeding horses. There are

sons and daughters, plus grand get and great grand get spread around the country.

We feel fortunate to have over three dozen of Zane's offspring remaining in our foundation herd, not including this year's babies. Some of our Zane descendants are intensely linebred, which will permit us to draw on his greatness forever in our breeding program. Additionally, we have a restricted amount of Zane's semen in storage for future use.

While aging was evident,

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Zane's condition and health

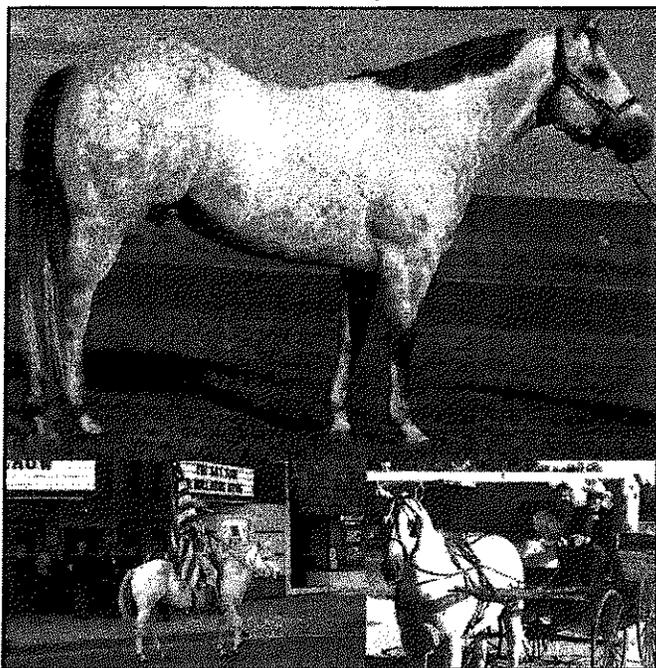
remained strong through most of the past year. During the winter, he started

losing weight; yet continued coming to evening grain feed and ruling the dozen broodmares in his band. He may have settled a couple of mares already this spring.

Although Zane could have been placed in a barn, fed rations formulated for aging horses and perhaps lived longer, he would not have been happy cooped up. Slower than usual coming for grain the day before passing, Zane was still getting around just a few hours before he layed down, was unable to get up and passed away.

Zane is buried on a small knoll overlooking the ranch headquarters, beside horses B Bar and Trigger, and dogs Bandit and Purdie. A monument will be placed at the gravesite.

Our close friend and great partner, Zane was truly a blessing and will always be remembered and appreciated.



Zane was a Quarter Horse breeding stallion, who also found diverse occupations as ranch mount, movie star and buggy horse. Shown in a portrait as a six-year-old, the gray stud performed as Tom Mix's white horse, Tony II, in a local pageant, and put under harness served well for a wedding party.

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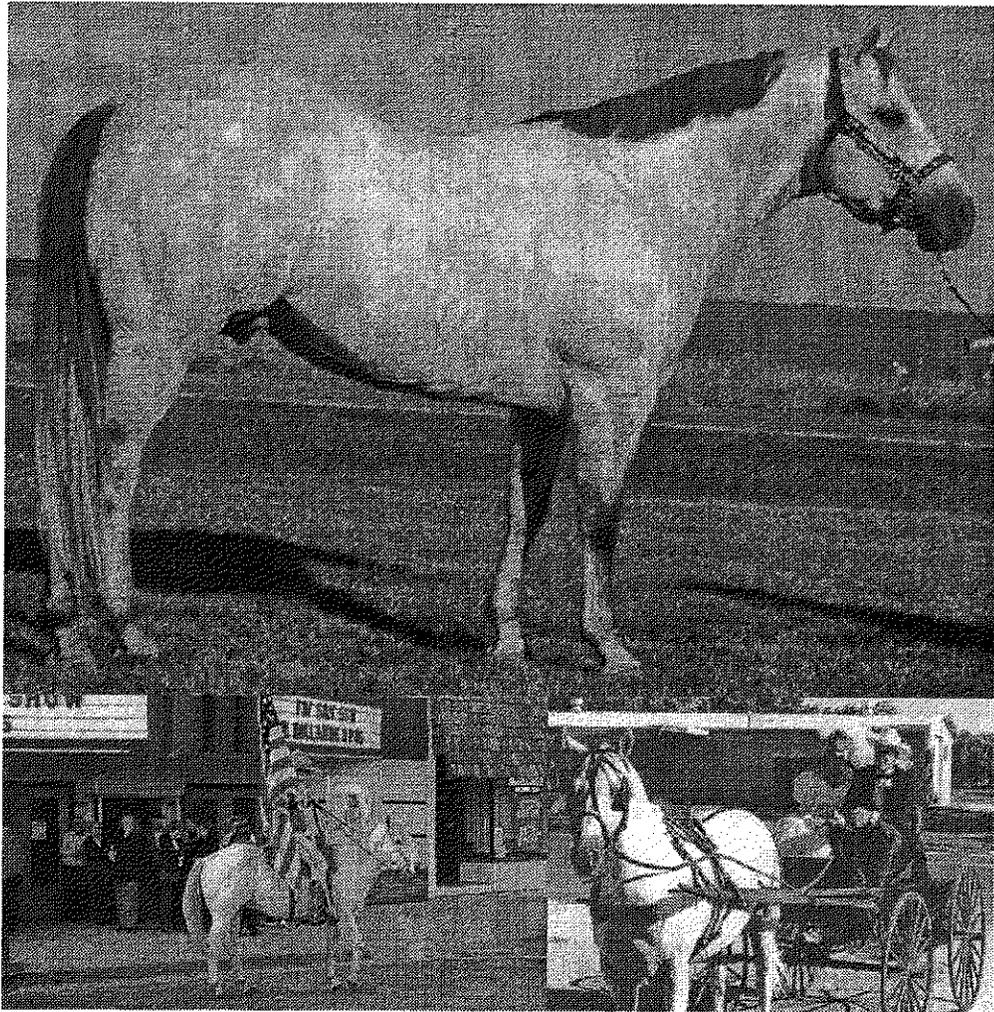
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