



## Quarter Horseman Guy Ray Rutland Joins His Stallion Pacific Bailey In Hall Of Fame

"He knew everything there was to know about a horse."

That complimentary quote from Mrs. Cliff Rutland was echoed more than once when talking to the vast number of people who knew the late Guy Ray Rutland of Independence.

"He was a true horseman, and he had a true love for his horses," added Mrs. Rutland in describing her father-in-law, who has recently been posthumously inducted into the Kansas Quarter Horse Hall of Fame.

"Dad could almost take a mare and a stud and just compute what that colt was going to look like when he was born," added Cliff, Guy's Ray's oldest son, who is still an intimate part of the continuing Rutland Ranch Quarter Horse operation.

"Dad was about 20 years ahead of the industry in his breeding program, and because of that we've been able to build right on what he started," explained Jeff Rutland, who manages the operation 19 years after the death of his father.

"If Guy Ray told you something, that's the way it was," insisted Odis Craighead of Vian, Okla., long-time jockey for Rutland. "He was a well-respected, honest man who would never say anything bad about anyone."

Born in 1917 near Okemah, Okla., Guy Ray Rutland always wanted to be a rancher and initially had a cattle operation after he married his wife Millie. However, the purchase of Gold King Bailey, a palomino stallion, in 1946, changed direction of the program.

Moving to Independence in 1950, Rutland started raising palomino horses and hauling them to Indiana where there was a demand for them. "After I deposited some of the checks from those horses, my banker suggested that I sell my cows and buy more horses. That's exactly what I did," Rutland was quoted as saying nearly 50 years ago.

Rutland's broodmare band included daughters of Leo, Oklahoma Star, Hard Twist, Royal Bar and Tonto

Bars Gill, to name a few.

A son of Gold King Bailey, Gold Pacific, out of the mare South Pacific, soon became the No. 2 sire of the operation behind his father. In 1963, the mare Nell Bert McCue foaled a colt, by Gold Pacific, and Rutland named him Pacific Bailey.

"Dad tried to sell that scrawny-looking colt as a weanling for \$400, but nobody would buy him," Cliff Rutland recalled. "Dad said we'd just keep him and outrun them. So we did, and he did."

In 1963, Gold King Bailey died at age 19, just one month after Gold Pacific died of colic. Pacific Bailey actually arrived just in time. "Pacific Bailey's mama wasn't too much to look at, but I'm thankful that blood was thicker than water," Guy Ray

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said, once the 15-3 hand sorrel with a blaze became a prominent name.

In 1965, Ol' Pac, as the family called Pacific Bailey, was a stakes winner of four futurities with 14 firsts and three seconds from 19 starts. "He set an AQHA record for 300 yards and beat four of the top five finishers in the All-American Futurity that year, although he didn't run in that race," related Cliff, the stallion's trainer.

After injuries stopped the stud's race career, Rutland put Ol' Pac into the show ring and collected halter and performance titles en route to his AQHA championship.

Most importantly, Pacific Bailey became a sire. "In 27 breeding seasons, he sired 2,942 registered foals. His progeny had 1,326 starts and 1,977 wins," Cliff tallied. "Ol' Pac did this on the lower-totem-pole mares, and competing with Easy Jet and those stallions that got the better type of mares."

"Actually, Ol' Pac sired not only race horses, but top

performance and halter point earning horses too. He sired more Quarter Horses than any other Quarter Horse stallion on record," Jeff pointed out.

Pacific Bailey was inducted into the Kansas Quarter Horse Hall of Fame in 2002.

Guy Ray Rutland was the American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA) leading breeder of race winners in 1967, and he conducted his first production sale that year.

During his lifetime, Rutland was also named a leading breeder of performance point earners, a leading breeder of race register of merit (ROM) qualifiers, a leading breeder of halter class winners, a leading breeder of show ROM horses and a leading breeder of AQHA champions.

A one-of-a-kind mare motel was built by Rutland in 1972. Still in use today, the facility is 320 feet by 252 feet, with 148 16-foot-by-16-foot stalls, including automatic waterers and infrared heating. "People who bring



Leading Quarter Horse breeder Guy Ray Rutland of Independence was posthumously inducted into the Kansas Quarter Horse Hall Of Fame for his lifetime of achievements in the Quarter Horse industry. With the recognition, Rutland joined his deceased stallion, Pacific Bailey, who was inducted into the Hall in 2002. No other Quarter Horse stallion has more offspring than Pacific Bailey.

their horses here now are still in awe of this barn," Jeff admitted.

Among other stallions standing at the Rutland Ranch during Guy Ray's era were supreme champion Bar Money, King Leo Bailey, Star Bright Moore, Carrara Marble, Jet Stop and Mr Smooth Pac.

Today, Cliff and Jeff and their families continue the operation. "Dad set the foundation, and we're still using the mare lines he established. We breed our Pacific Bailey and Bar Money

mares to our First Down Dash, Chick Beduino and Admiral Indy stallions," Jeff said.

"Our goal has not been to change what Dad did, but to continue and build on it," he emphasized.

At one time, the Rutland Ranch owned 400 mares and bred over 700 mares annually. "We have about 60 mares now and will breed about 200 mares this year. Most of the mares are bred A.I.," Jeff continued.

"Dad always said horses had to be selected for three

main things: conformation, pedigree and performance. We've definitely followed that," noted Jeff.

The ranch takes an average of 25 home-raised race horses to the track annually.

Noting that there have been trends in the Quarter Horse industry where buyers have insisted on certain lines for specific events, Jeff indicated there is a swing back toward the all-around horse.

"Our horses are bred to win on the track, in the arena and at halter. That's the way

they've always been, and now people are again realizing a horse needs to do a lot of things, not just one event," he evaluated.

Seven years ago, the Rutland Ranch received the AQHA Legacy Award for over 50 years of continuous breeding of Quarter Horses.

Indicative of Guy Ray Rutland's philosophy, his horse sale catalogs and advertising always emphasized: "Make New Friends ... Keep the Old ... One is Silver ... the Other is Gold."



The 1963 sorrel Quarter Horse stallion Pacific Bailey was bred and owned by Guy Ray Rutland of Independence. A stakes race winner and AQHA champion, Pacific Bailey, an inductee into the Kansas Quarter Horse Hall of Fame in 2002, sired more Quarter Horses than any other stallion in the lifetime of the breed.