



Peter H. VanGuysling

August 16, 1942 - August 7, 2022

Peter H. VanGuysling, 79, passed away Sunday August 7, 2022 at home surrounded by family. He was born in Albany, NY on 8/16/1942 to Perry & Evelyn VanGuysling (deceased). Peter grew up in the Pine Hills section of Albany with his 4 siblings, where he attended high school at the Vincentian Institute in Albany and graduated from the Junior College of Albany. He enlisted in the army for 2 years, after which he worked for a short time at his father's business, Composition Corporation. But for him it was always the horses. At the age of 12 his aunt Edna Powers introduced him to horses, and thus started his life long passion for the equestrian sport. Peter first learned how to ride with Russel Stewart at My Play Stables, where he learned the art of communication between horse and rider. He was lucky enough to have had the opportunity to try out many disciplines, from the typical English and Western riding, to steeplechase, foxhunting and breezing horses at the track. But he turned to the sport of show jumping and made a life from that. Peter started Dutch Manor Stable in 1967, on the outskirts of Albany, NY. There he trained young horses and riders to become more than what they were. Some of the country's top riders and trainers of today got their start riding at Dutch Manor and achieved recognition at numerous A-rated shows including competing in the American Horse Show Association (AHSA) Medal Finals and the American Society of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) Maclay Finals. He did this working with Cindy Ford in the early 70/80s and then with Nora Hanlon from 1986 on. Peter showed extensively up

and down the east coast, including at the National Horse Show at Madison Square Garden with Balmoral in 1971. After obtaining his judging license, Peter balanced running his stables and traveling the US and parts of Canada judging at large and small shows alike, all while raising a family with his wife Linda. In his later years he still enjoyed training young riders on the old-school tried and true mechanics of riding, and on how to work with your horse's strengths and personality. He always enjoyed the ones who were a bit "hot" as he liked to say. They were a puzzle to be solved and usually the ones who eventually went the best in the show ring.

Peter was a founding member of the Capital District Hunter Jumper Council, alongside Con Culkin, John Blair, William Joyce, and Ralph P. Symmes. The CDHJC is an organization that promotes horse show opportunities for the equestrian community in the greater Capital District and Peter was very proud of this accomplishment.

But he was most proud of his family and friendships. He is survived by his wife of 56 years Linda (Gibb) VanGuysling and his children Michael H.

VanGuysling (Denise Popow), & Gail Tidmarsh (Paul). He is also survived by his grandchildren, Kaitlin, Trevin, Matthew, Keelin, Jack & Ryan; his siblings, Maryann McLaughlin, Lisa Hanifan, Mark VanGuysling (Patricia), Kathleen Flood (Paul); his nieces and nephews, his business partner Nora Hanlon and his extended Dutch Manor family. He will be greatly missed by all, but his legacy will continue in those who knew him, loved him and learned from him.

In life, just like on a horse, you must be "Forward, Straight and Balanced".

There will be no formal services, as Peter requested a celebration of his life, to be planned for the fall. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to your local animal shelter, the ASPCA or St. Peter's Hospice of Albany, NY

Tribute Wall

CW

“ Mike, Gail, and Linda: I have so many great memories of hours and days of summer around your house and how eternally welcoming you were all the time. Even when I tore the door off your dad's car at a gas station :-). Your friendship in those years meant. Peter was such a great guy and brought so much joy to the many folks who came by to ride. Best to y'all in the days to come.

Chris Wooster - August 18, 2022 at 11:16 AM

KA

“ I grew up next door to Peter's parents, Evie and Perry. I was so lucky to have such wonderful neighbors as a little girl and horse lover. When I was 10, Peter gave me my first lesson at Dutch Manor on a big, gentle horse named Laffy. I rode there gleefully until high school when other sports became a priority. I still have a couple of the ribbons I earned, including the large and now crispy-with- age CDHJC Reserve Champion ribbon for my age group, circa 1992. Not only did I learn how to ride at Dutch Manor, I amassed many life lessons about responsibility, caregiving, work ethic, friendship dynamics, and business operations, to name a few. I can still so easily recall Peter's voice (and Nora's, Gail's, Gaye's and Linda's) as he guided us through the years-long work of learning how to travel around with a large four-legged creature who is, like us, subject to good and not-so-good days, mistakes, illness, fear, etc. I have ridden sporadically in the 30 years since my last lesson at Dutch Manor in California, Wyoming, and Montana and hope to ride soon with my young daughter and son in Oregon. Growing up with the VanGuyslins was truly a gift. Sending so much love to you all! -
Kate "Katie" Malone
P.S. I love the photos that Gail posted!!

Kate - August 18, 2022 at 12:51 AM

GT

“ 7 files added to the album *Memories*



Gail Tidmarsh - August 15, 2022 at 09:26 PM

LA

“ Truly a legend. The words "forward, straight, and balanced" will forever be ingrained in my head from my time riding under Peter. Such a huge loss.

Larissa - August 15, 2022 at 02:55 PM

PD

“ So many memories—14 years of riding with Peter. I could write a short novel! So many hours at DMS, so many highlights of my show career. So many stories told by PVG. So many things learned. Peter shared his knowledge, philosophy and talent with a huge population of equestrians spanning the course of 50+ years, who will always hear the echo of his voice each time they climb aboard a horse. He was loved and will be missed by so many. My deepest condolences to Linda, Gail, Michael and extended family.

Patricia DeCaprio - August 14, 2022 at 07:14 PM

JH

“ I have so many fond memories of Peter, was always a pleasure working for him. We had so many awesome conversations and laughs, just being in his presence made you just want to be the best you could be. My thoughts, prayers and love to Linda, Gail and Nora, anything I can do please reach out to me. James Hunsinger

JAMES HUNSINGER - August 14, 2022 at 06:06 PM

MF

“ Peter always held himself and his horses to a higher standard. We will miss him. Mark Frohm

Mark Frohm - August 14, 2022 at 02:01 PM

DH

Privileged and grateful to have been a friend of Peters since his inception of Dutch Manor- a wonderful legacy for sure - heartfelt condolences to his family - it's a long list of people who will miss him.

DeeDee Hopper - August 14, 2022 at 02:36 PM

KD

Our thoughts are with Peter's family and friends. Peter was an amazing teacher and we will never forget all love he gave to the horses and his family as well as his staff and students. Karen, Steve and Nicole DiBella

Karen DiBella - August 16, 2022 at 06:43 PM

JC

My condolences to Peter's family and to all the Dutch Manor Family.

Joyce Cockerham - August 17, 2022 at 04:38 PM

BQ

My deepest sympathy, love and prayers to Linda, Gail and Michael as you mourn the passing of your husband and dad. We go back more than fifty years and have many memories over those early years especially. Pete's love of you all, his commitment to his family and his business, his place in the community has made it all the more difficult to express how much he will be missed by everyone. My prayers for you all as you go forward. Barbara Quackenbush (Sinkins)

Barbara Quackenbush - August 26, 2022 at 12:53 AM

SB

Wow... we're going back over 40 years when I used to train under Peter. My mom would drive me from MA to NY, Chalky in tow, every week, then I moved in for the summer! What Great Memories!

Scott Bailey - December 09, 2024 at 12:30 PM