



Terry Gallentine is our first inductee in this year's IQHA Hall of Fame. Terry was born September 24, 1946 and died November 15, 2002. He grew up near Harcourt, Iowa, and graduated from Iowa State University with a degree in Aerospace Engineering. He went on to work for Martin Marietta in Denver, CO, but eventually decided that desk work was too confining. He returned to Iowa where he worked as an Environmental Engineer monitoring cleanup of underground gas tank removal and testing underground tanks for leakage. He became passionate about roping activities and his community.

Even though he's been gone for 17 years, everyone I spoke with while I was gathering information for this presentation only had the highest praise for Terry:

- A Crawford County 4-H leader said he was always there supporting the 4-H clubs
- Fellow exhibitors said he encouraged them and was always in attendance whether it was jackpot ropings, clinics, or AQHA shows.
- Terry was an IQHA board member in the 1980's. Sue couldn't remember if he was District 6 director or a director at large.
- Terry received the IQHA Amateur Sportsmanship Award in 2002

Some of Terry's roping mounts through the years were Ozark Pine at the Clay County Fair in 1996; Carver's Smarty carried Terry on many roping runs throughout the years winning Western

IA Circuit Champion in 2001; and Watch Jo Fox who won the Western IA Circuit Champion in 2002.

Terry served as a member of the Western Iowa Expo Board and was instrumental in gaining funding for the indoor arena. It always seemed to rain at the Denison Quarter Horse Shows. Some of us can still remember showing halter on the driveway or grass next to the knee-deep, muddy arena; and performance classes were held in quickly marked out grass areas. You might see Terry on the tractor pulling out stuck trailers on those weekends. Yes, the ropers prefer to rope outside, but what a blessing the indoor arena is for those days the weather doesn't cooperate!

In 2002 Terry and his son Scott (also known as Goose) roped together at the USTRC in Tulsa with Terry riding Watch Joe Fix.



Rosalie Carlson was honored to be at the World Show and see Terry's November 14, 2002, run. Terry and Watch Joe Fix scored a 217 in the preliminaries. It was the highest score they had ever received!

Wade Ellerbroek recalls meeting Terry and Sue on the street by the "sweet shop" following the class. They were bubbling over with laughter and enjoyed sharing the exhilaration of that run.

Who knew it was Terry's last run!

Zac Wiges flew home for Terry's visitation and funeral. He penned this poem while on the plane and read it at the funeral. I'll attempt to read it, but it might cause a few tears. Zac was much more eloquent than I could ever be.

You know him as Terry Gallentine
I know him as the Godfather, he's a friend of mine.
He wasn't as tall as ole John Wayne
But he could out rope him just the same
With his trailer in tow and headed to a ropin'
He'd have Grey and Buckey and probably be smokin'
When it came time to enter, he wouldn't be shy
He'd enter with me, Barney, Kenny, Bret, Kevin, Lyle
Or anyone else who caught his eye.
He would head, he would heel, he would even calf rope
And when there was a break in the action, he'd have a smoke
I've never heard a bad word spoke about him
And his friends were his friends right to the end
At the US Finals he roped with his son
Then packed up for the World to make his last run
He headed and heeled with his partner the Orthanator
We didn't think St. Peter would get him 'till later
Thank goodness we never know when our last day will come
It might mess with our head when we make that last run
Many friends at the World wanted to come that's no jokin'
But Terry would say "Stay there and keep ropin'"
They wanted to come to tell Terry good-bye
So I'll read you their names and try not to cry
Steve Orth, JD, Jay Lynn and Brad Lund
Tried to fly in, they wanted to come
Jeff Carney, Kyle Lane, Roger Coday, Kent Martin, and Jim Brinkman too
They wanted to come to help support Sue
Many hands were pressed to mine palm to palm
And said "tell Sue, be strong and stay calm"
Terry's alright on that range in the sky
He's ropin' on clouds with a gleam in his eye
The cattle run fast but it's really no race
His new horse has wings and wow can he face
His rope has no misses, he swings it like lightning
The way that he catches is certainly frightening

They'll be ropin' in heaven with Terry that's no joke
He'll even get the good Lord to pick up a rope
They rope on Wednesday probably 'till one
Then they'll head to Ampride to talk over each run
This story is true, lighthearted no doubt
But there are few times I won't tell Sue about
These Night Trip stories are better left to rest
And I'm not tellin' Sue about the Wild Wild West
So good-bye my friend for now, I'll stop cryin' and moping
I'll remember you always – **THE GODFATHER OF ROPING**

Poem by Zac Wiges