

## **Stanley Edwards**

### **White Hat = White Glove**

By Linda A. Radtke

I have known Stanley since I was a young child, not only as a trainer but a long time friend of the family and would like to share some memories with you. I always remember Stanley showing Danish Commander, a powerful chestnut stallion trimmed in flaxen. Stanley always wore a blue suit with a white hat and white gloves, a trademark of his. His steady hands, led him to riding races horses before starting his illustrious career as a show horse trainer. I never knew him personally until I met Gloria Vacheck, who some years later would become his wife. Gloria was looking for a pony for her son and decided that my pony Bobby Socks would be the one. It was through this meeting that my entire family became life long friends. Gloria informed us she bought a nice Saddlebred mare by the name of Be Gracious had placed her in training with Stanley. My family decided to put my equitation pleasure horse Kentucky Jones with Stanley also. With the three horses mentioned, we traveled the Pennsylvania and Ohio circuit, enjoying some wonderful times, meeting new friends and great memories.

There are many other memories to be shared by the many loyal friends and customers. Stanley had Arabians in training (Keller Electric) many in the Top Ten as well as world champion Morgans for Dick Shea. He and Gloria would travel selecting only the best of horse for their customers. Stanley was committed to finding a horse the customer could ride and with over 60 years of training horses he could find the right horse. If Stanley showed the horse, other trainers knew the horse was not suitable for an amateur rider; maybe that is why Stanley was such a good trainer, time and patience was his specialty. Proof of his talents was quite evident with Saddlebreds too. Perhaps two of the outstanding Saddlebreds were Holly Go Lightly and Countess Vixen who were purchased after their classes at the Kentucky State Fair; they went on to win world championships for the new owners! Stanley had many local Saddlebreds, Morgans and Arabians in training that enjoyed much success on the bigger circuit. I would like to list all the horses he has worked but I would have to write a book and would feel terrible for leaving anyone out.

In lieu of flowers, Gloria asked you sponsor a class in Stanley's memory. Gloria will hold an open house this summer and at the stables and ask you come and share your memories of Stanley. Stanley lost one his best friend Bill Norton just before New Years. Bill's wife Lois stated that both are sharing a bottle of scotch and watching form above. Thanks for the memories Stanley!