



GRACE GREENLEE

Grace was a lifelong resident of McDowell County, North Carolina, living the majority of her life on her family's farm in Woodlawn.

Grace was a graduate of North Carolina State University with a bachelor's degree in animal science. After college she began her professional career in the horse industry by starting Sans Souci Arabians where she was owner/trainer. She would go on to train and produce multiple national champions in the Arabian horse industry. Her beloved stallion, multi-national and international champion, Warranty was a major contributor to her efforts as a breeder and training facility. Grace was also a United States Equestrian Federation Judge, accredited in not only the Arabian division but also as a National Show Horse, Friesian, Andalusian and Lusitano judge. She was also an inspector for the Haflinger registry. She served in these capacities in not only the United States but judged internationally on 3 other continents.

Although she started her business as Sans Souci Arabian, she developed a strong affection for the Friesian horse and sought to acquire some of the best bloodstock, traveling to the Netherlands to purchase mares and stallions where she imported them to the US and Sans Souci Showhorses was her business entity.

Grace was arguably one of the most qualified breeders and judges of equine bloodstock in the world – no matter the breed. She fully understood the need to modernize the horse but to retain foundation characteristics.

The Gypsy Vanner Horse Society was lucky enough to have such an esteemed professional when Grace got involved as a Gypsy Vanner Horse evaluator in 2014 until her passing October 23, 2021. Grace was always willing to travel all over including internationally to educate about the Gypsy Vanner. She always was aware of the importance to educate owners about their horse and would spend extra time speaking one on one. She was well respected and loved by many involved with the Gypsy Vanner. Grace spent much of her own time volunteering ideas and efforts to the organization to help make it a success.

The GVHS is honored to have Grace Greenlee as a permanent addition to the GVHS Hall of Fame.