

I have wonderful memories of Charlie! Most of course have to do with horses! He was the one that helped my love of horses become a reality & not just a dream. He helped me learn to ride & have the confidence to get out there & find horses to ride once I was back in CA. He taught me how to care for them, brush them & feed them. He even sent me a horse once, along with all the tack needed to ride & to care for it. I remember she arrived on a Saturday night, too late to go for a ride.....I was dying to get on her. The next day, being Sunday meant I had to wait until Monday to get on her.....and my dad being bishop, well there was no way to convince him I should at least sit on her! So, after church, believing dad would be busy at the chapel, I snuck out to the pasture...one thing led to another & soon I was on her back....then a halter found it's way onto her...the gate seemed to have a mind of it's own. There was only a short distance to ride on the road to get to the trail head where safety awaited me! Wouldn't you know it, just feet from the trail head who should drive up, but DAD!!!! BUSTED!!! I had to turn around & put her up, but the next morning before day break I was out there! All because someone in UT named Charlie took pity on the little horse crazy girl born to his unhorse crazy brother! Charlie used to say to me, "If you come live with me you can have any horse you want!" You have no idea how hard it was to not tell dad I was moving to UT!!!!

Until this past trip to CA, (I just got home last night), I hadn't ridden in 20 years! A friend of Nora's & mine took me riding twice while I was there & everything came rushing back! I didn't get saddle sore as I'd expected to & my knowledge of horse sense was second nature, it had never left me! Then today, on my first day back I have been asked to take someone riding on their horses, (they do not have the knowledge nor the self confidence to ride alone). They offered to pay me!!!! Of course I said "no" to the pay. So it looks like my love of horses & riding has come full circle! I even have kept my old saddle, the one that was most comfortable, & I bought saddle soap & leather conditioner while in CA not knowing I would truly need it! I guess this is all in a way thanks to Uncle Charlie & his love for horses & a little girl from CA!

Aloha,
Love,
Susan