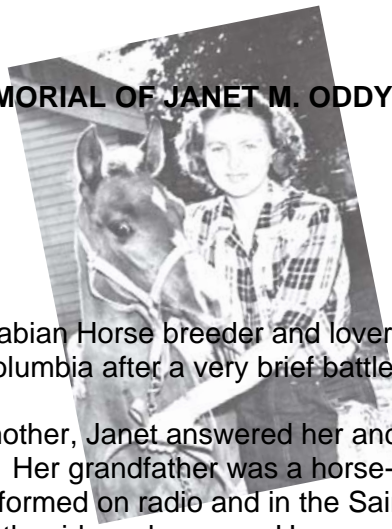


## MEMORIAL OF JANET M. ODDY



Janet Marie Oddy, 81 years old, prolific Arabian Horse breeder and lover of life, humor and all creatures, passed away March 13, 2011, in British Columbia after a very brief battle with an abdominal blood clot.

Daughter of a cereal chemist and doting mother, Janet answered her ancestral calling. Her love of horses was genetic, an integral leaf on her family tree. Her grandfather was a horse-man, and so was she. Janet's mother was a popular vocalist of her time who performed on radio and in the Saint Olaf's Choir. Her mother wanted Janet to be a concert pianist. Janet had other ideas, however. Her commitment to horses began in earnest at a young age of 13 when her family lived in Scarboro Heights, a neighborhood of comfortable, well-kept larger homes close to the downtown area of Calgary.

Janet viewed her surroundings as assets to convert into horse currency! During the Calgary Stampede in 1942, she rented her room to visitors and made \$46.00, enough to purchase her first horse, Midnight. To the uneasy horror of Janet's mother, Midnight lived in the detached garage. Flicka was Janet's next purchase, and at 17 her bedroom furniture was traded for Scheherazade, a lovely horse of ordinary pedigree and named for the heroine of *1001 Arabian Nights*.

The purchase of Scheherazade marked Arabian Horses as the first of Janet's two lifelong passions, the other being a very handsome and ambitious young man named Edwin "Bud" Oddy.

Janet loved Arabian Horses because she loved their souls and admired the beauty of the beast. Janet was like one of the herd, a respected horse that just happened to have two legs rather than four. Janet was stepped-on, kicked, licked and loved as one of the dominant horses. Once, in her late 70s and working alone in the stable, she was accidentally flipped by a favorite horse, landed face-down and knocked unconscious. As she struggled back to consciousness, Janet felt the sweet, soft muzzle of the offender on her neck as if to say "I'm sorry; will you forgive me?"

Janet was tough, real tough. She had a bad back since youth from vigorous riding, jumping and handling horses. Chiropractic adjustments helped her discomfort. After the flipping episode, she took a few months to recover, but most women her age would have been killed.

Janet was famous for treating horses and herself, claiming to have been a doctor in a past life. She was eccentric, stubborn and the center of attention. She would often say "Arabvoir" (in tribute to her horses and hoping to coin this personalized phrase combining "Arab" and the French goodbye "au revoir") rather than simply hello or goodbye. She loved to cook for her visitors, not for the good food, but because the visitors would stay longer and she enjoyed their company. She fervently believed the mantra "If a little is good, a lot is excellent." Her chicken cacciatore recipe involved marinating at room temperature for days. By God's grace, the chicken was quite excellent and no one ever fell ill.

Janet was of Norwegian background (which explains her Viking strength), but said that she was made a tribal blood brother during one of her rides with Native Indians in the foothills near Calgary. All creatures loved her but she best loved horses. She fed bears and lived to tell about it. Deer came to her retirement ranch. Chucky the chicken (no relation to her cacciatore) adored her.

Janet was forgiving in biblical proportions. A proud, sweet loving grey mare and proud stallion, had the privilege of Janet's fine care for many years, with daily grain, a comfortable stable, and the best of alfalfa hay. These horses were sent to a ranch in exchange for a promise to respect and care for the magnificent animals (Janet's requirements for placing horses in another home). Instead, the mare was left to starve to death on the frozen Alberta plain during the worst of winter. The stallion fortunately survived and was returned to Janet, in close to death condition but was recuperated back to health. Yet Janet forgave the responsible party.

The abused stallion and mare become 2 of the "Rescue 100" nationally televised story in 2008 and the Rescue 100 Foundation, dedicated to offering care, love and healing to animals that survive abuse.

Janet is established as one of the largest Arabian Horse breeders of her time, Oddy's Skyline Arabians Ltd., with offspring spread throughout Canada and the United States. Her concentration was in the English Crabbet and Davenport lines, with a side-line run of Polish. Raseyn Gezan, a mainstay stallion, sired 140 purebreds alone from 1960 to 1980. He was a Top Ten Stallion winner and Grand Champion. A few products of Janet's breeding program were Jinnyi's Ferda, Concorde Gezan, Shammra, Wafa El Shammar, Rifala's Naseem, Rif Alazar, Kahrabaye, La Golindrina, Jericho Antez, Taffy, Skowronek's Jinnyi, Taffy's Ferliti, Cinderallah, Abu Farwas Rawia, Brusally El Azrak, Azcindi, Azulique, Jaleure, Jawarr, Mauhin, Vask, Falk and Rivaska.

Janet was born in Calgary, Alberta, died in Kamloops, British Columbia, and is survived by Bud, her husband of 57 years; sons Peter and Ken, and daughter Kristi Sindt; hundreds of horse friends; and a very large herd of four-legged creatures scattered throughout our great nations.

Arabvoir, Janet. We shall see you in heaven!

Please send donations to Rescue 100 Foundation at [www.Rescue100.ca](http://www.Rescue100.ca) in lieu of flowers.

Please send your questions, comments, pictures or stories to Peter G. Oddy, at [Oddy@OddyAssociates.com](mailto:Oddy@OddyAssociates.com). Our family would love to hear from you.

