

HASUDAN

Carolyn Reimer

Hasudan was purchased in 1988 when he was a dappled gray 4 year old. I rode him mainly on 25 and 30 mile competitive trail rides, doing an occasional 50. Although Dan was never the best at anything we asked him to do, somehow or another he did it. His idea of competition was to go out and do one loop, come into camp, and take it easy the rest of the day. And yet he'd go out and finish the distance simply because it was expected of him, and he really didn't have a choice!.

3 years ago my daughter Kayla and Dan became a team. She did several competitive rides on him in 1996, placing 6th in the Jr. division of Limited Distance Competitive, and also Champion Jr. Rider in SIDRA. That same year he did his first horse shows at the IL State 4H horse show and the Youth Charity Horse Show in Springfield, which is a pretty big event for kids in central Illinois. Once again, Dan was not the best horse in the coliseum, he certainly was not the prettiest, but he was always calm and took the events in stride. He did training level dressage, hunt seat, and his best class was the Arabian Native Costume class. He seemed to know that this was his class, he could go out and move at a strong gallop and not be judged so much on his looks.

At age 15, Dan will probably do only an occasional competitive ride. He achieved his 1,000 Mile Award in UMECRA in 1997, and has received his 500 and 1,000 mile awards in IAHA's Distance Riding Program. Life for him didn't end after distance riding. Its was just a change in his lifestyle.