

= Skipper W =

Skipper W ( 1945 ? 1963 ) was an American Quarter Horse and a famous breeding stallion . Despite not being shown in many horse shows , he went on to become the senior stallion of his breeder 's reproductive program . Although he sired only 132 offspring , the products of his breeder 's program are still often known as " Skipper W " horses . He will be inducted into the American Quarter Horse Hall of Fame in 2011 .

= = Early life = =

Skipper W was a 1945 sorrel stallion bred by H. J. Wescamp of Alamosa , Colorado . Sired by Nick Shoemaker , whose father was Nick sired by Shiek P @-@ 11 , Skipper W was out of Hired Girl , a daughter of Cowboy P @-@ 12 . His second dam , or maternal grandmother , was Leche , who was also fathered by Nick by Shiek P @-@ 11 . The colt was named Skipper W because , as Wescamp related :

I had another good stud colt born around the same time as Skipper . He was a palomino sired by Gold Mount and out of Slipalong Wescamp . That was also the year that the good movie , Showboat , came out and I named the little yellow colt after that picture . Anyway , I had Hired Girl up in a corral and , after she foaled , I told a fellow who was working for me to disinfect the naval on the colt [ Skipper W ] . After the man did that , the colt got up and turned around and kicked him ' cause it smarted . I said to that fellow , " Look at that , he already knows he 's the boss ! I 've got a showboat , and every boat needs a skipper , so that 's what I 'm going to name him ? Skipper . " I added the W for Wescamp .

Before Skipper W was born , Wescamp had attempted to sell Hired Girl while she was pregnant with the colt , but at \$ 150 ( approximately \$ 2 @,@ 000 in 2016 ) , did not get any buyers . While the colt was a weanling , Wescamp priced him at \$ 500 ( approximately \$ 6 @,@ 600 in 2016 ) , and the one potential purchaser decided it was too high a price for a colt the buyer planned to make into a gelding . When Skipper W was a yearling , another possible buyer , who was wanting a potential breeding stallion , looked at the colt , but when they found out that Wescamp wanted \$ 1500 ( approximately \$ 18 @,@ 200 in 2016 ) for the horse decided against purchasing . Instead , Skipper W never sold and spent his entire life with Wescamp .

Wescamp had Skipper W trained as a riding horse when he was a two @-@ year @-@ old , and the ranch hand who did the training said after a couple of days of working him in a small corral , he " just got on him . And the first time I got on him , I just turned this colt around , clucked to him , and just kind of spanked him with the rein a little bit . And the colt took to it and just walked off . That 's the way he was . The colt never hopped up , he never done nothing . " The same ranch hand later used Skipper W as a roping horse , and said that the horse really liked to do ranch work . At the age of three years , Skipper W was about 15 hands high ( 60 inches ( 150 centimeters ) and weighed about 1 @,@ 250 pounds ( 570 kilograms ) .

Wescamp showed Skipper W as a halter horse three times when the stallion was four years old . Skipper W was named grand champion stallion at the three shows he attended , the 1948 National Western Stock Show in Denver , the 1948 Colorado State Fair , and the 1948 New Mexico State Fair . Wescamp later remarked that " I 'm glad now that we didn 't show him more , because he would have been before the public so much that he probably would have been sold . " However , Skipper W 's American Quarter Horse Association , or AQHA , show record does not show any record of these wins , which is not unusual for horses shown in the 1940s , as the record keeping was not always the best during the early years of the AQHA .

= = Breeding career = =

In early 1948 , Nick Shoemaker , Wescamp 's senior stallion and Skipper W 's sire , died in a freak accident while in his paddock , by slipping on some ice and breaking his neck against a fence . This meant that Skipper W 's show career was cut short so that he could replace his sire as the main

breeding stallion . During his entire career , Skipper W never was bred to any mare that was not owned by Wiescamp . Wiescamp wanted to make sure that the mares that he bred his stallions to were the best possible matches for the particular stallion . From the time of Nick Shoemaker 's death until Skipper W 's own death , the horse remained Wiescamp 's senior stallion .

During his breeding career he sired 18 foal crops , with a total of 132 horses registered with the AQHA . Among his offspring were Skip 's Dilly , the 1964 AQHA High Point Western Pleasure Mare , Skipette , the 1964 AQHA High Point Calf Roping Mare , and Skip Sir Bar , the 1968 AQHA High Point Steer Roping Horse . As well , he sired 13 AQHA Champions , 7 Superior Halter Horses , and 18 Performance Register of Merit earners . He sired 4 horses that earned a Race Register of Merit with the AQHA .

Skipper W died in 1963 , probably of a heart attack . Wiescamp kept 7 of his sons as breeding stallions and 57 of his daughters as broodmares in Wiescamp 's linebreeding program .

Although he did not sire a great number of horses , the linebreeding program that Wiescamp followed led to the products of that program often being called " Skipper W horses " . The horse will be inducted into the AQHA Hall of Fame in 2011 .

= = Pedigree = =