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## Henry (Stretch R Time)

Our dear, sweet Henry....

Words cannot express the emptiness that we feel without you in our lives. It is so hard to get past the finality of our last moments together, but we try to remember the good moments....there are so many...and no amount of blue ribbons or trophies can prove to us more that you were Grand Champion in our lives. Below are my thoughts one day after losing you to colic... When I became a horse owner and began meeting other horse-crazy people, they would talk about "The One". The One was the horse that changed everything for them. He or she was their partner...they were in touch with one another as if of the same mind. They would tell me that The One would neigh and come running to greet you, nuzzling warm breath onto cold hands in the winter. The One was patient (most of the time), simply wanting to please you and longing for a pat of praise. I was told that The One could take years to find, and that "you just know" when you have The One. Little did I know that when we brought Henry (Stretch R Time) into our lives, he would heal so much within us with his gentle and loving soul. He had patience beyond limits with a learning Mariah - trying to guess what she wanted from him when her young and inexperienced legs and hands were confusing. Henry taught Mariah the ropes (sometimes the hard way) about riding and horsemanship. But the most important thing that Henry taught Mariah (and I) is that there is something truly remarkable when you connect with The One. The One will do anything for you when they feel confident and secure with you. The One will listen quietly as you share your troubles with them...followed by promptly rubbing their face up and down your shirt. The One will blow horse dewormer and snot all over you. The One will poop every time they are in the wash stall. The One will be your friend through thick and thin. I am one of the lucky ones. I got The One in Henry, Henry, my friend, I cannot even begin to imagine this road without you. You have given us so much.

I love you Big Guy. You will always be The One to me.

