



# William "Bill" Trapp

## 2005 Inductee

- Licensed Arabian Judge 1961 - 2004

### W.J. "Bill" Trapp

As a child, Bill has fond memories of a pony he grew up with on his grandfather's farm. Little did he know that pony would be the beginning of a long and happy career in horses.

Bill had always appreciated and enjoyed horses all his life. However, it was while serving in Japan in 1945, his love of horses would take a new course – one of the Arabian. It was the beautiful white stallion "White Frost," owned by the Emperor of Japan, that he viewed in an Armistice Day parade. On that day, he vowed that he would be an owner of an Arabian.

Upon returning to the States, he found difficulty in finding a proper Arabian to purchase, however, he had an opportunity to settle down in beautiful Lake Geneva and it was there that he found both an Arabian for himself and one for his wife, Patricia, to enjoy. At that time, the enjoyment of riding, plus a small breeding operation, was enough for Bill and Patricia. But things were to change.

One of Bill's good friends was a Morgan horse judge and Bill often accompanied him to the shows. He spent a lot of time at county fairs and other horse show venues and soon became an apprentice. He also began breeding some mares. Soon his judging experience transferred over to his favorite breed – the Arabian – and Bill soon found himself going through the process of becoming a judge.

Bill's talent as a judge grew, as did his reputation for fair and competent judging. Soon he was judging National events, Regional events, and traveling to Kuwait, Australia, South Africa and most of the South American continent to judge shows. He credits his wife, Patricia and their son and daughter for supporting his judging efforts during all those years.

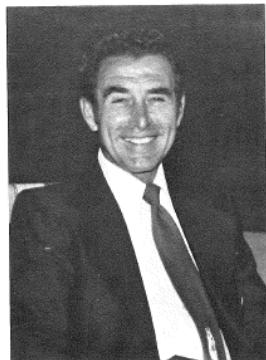
The Arabian breed was always important to Bill and he was committed to always improving the breed. He served on the Judges Selection Committee and Rules Committee for years and helped write rules for many of the classes. He also served on the Park Class Committee.

He has noticed many changes in the industry over the years. One of the changes is that horses themselves are better and show more training. "We used to say the horses we saw were half broke and then they would finish breaking them in the ring!"

Bill feels there is no one better than the wonderful people he has met in the Arabian breed. "I always considered it an honor to be given the opportunity to judge a horse show and took seriously the obligation to judge fairly and competently." Spoken like a true judge!



- Information from 1982 AHA Judges' Directory



W.J. TRAPP

Born: Arbor Vitae, Wisconsin on November 9, 1924

Education: High School; Attended College for 1 year prior to joining Army in World War II

Present Occupation: Horse Breeder

Horse Club Activities: Board Member and Past President of Wisconsin Arabian Horse Association; Served 2 terms as I.A.H.A. Region 10 Director

Horse Interests: All aspects of Arabian Horse Industry; Owns 25 Arabian Horses