

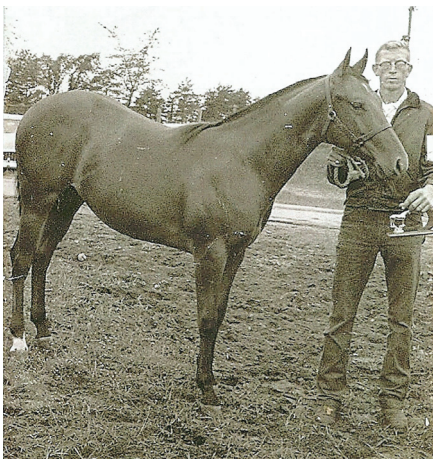
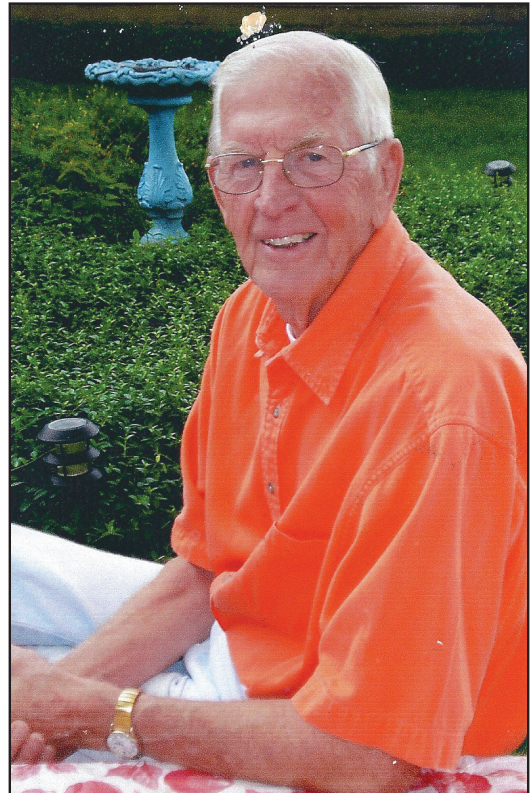
In Loving Memory of
Richard Gray

1930-2009

The 2010 Otsego County Fair is dedicated to
Richard (Dick) Gray.

Dick was one of seven children; born July 17, 1930 in Onaway, Michigan to Orin and Esther Gray. He graduated from Onaway in 1947. Dick worked summers on Mackinac Island, driving carriage tours. He served in the United States Army from 1951-1953 during the Korean War. Dick attended GMI in Flint and worked as an accountant.

In 1955 he moved to Gaylord, opening a riding stable at AuSable Ranch and Hidden Valley. He worked at Standard Products and Hidden Valley, where he became a controller until 1994 when he retired. That same year he opened Northland Ranch Stables with his wife Jane and daughters Marti and Jodi, until his health prevented him from continuing. He went to be with his heavenly father on January 30, 2009.



Dick was a wonderful dad, husband and grandpa. He will be remembered as a Godly man who had an impact on many lives beyond his family. A very interesting character, he was.....fun loving, gentle, gracious and compassionate with a great sense of humor that could be considered mischievous at times. Laid back and easy going, definitely describes who he was, but passionate about his God, his family, people and of course his horses, also describes his life. In spite of being a humble man, many sought him out for his wise council. Because of his servants heart he had a desire to be active in his community.

Dick loved the Otsego County Fair, where he was a board member for many years, and president from 1972-1976. He was one of the driving forces in the construction of the track and trotter barn to bring harness racing to the Otsego County Fair. Dick loved raising and training registered quarter horses. Dick was instrumental in establishing the Gaylord Horse Club. He was a qualified judge for the 4-H horse shows in Michigan and Canada. He was an avid supporter and leader of the 4-H program, teaching youth about horses and horsemanship skills. Dick invested countless hours in the lives of these young people. He was committed to ensuring they were able to participate in the Otsego County Fair. After endless hours of preparation, he made numerous trips hauling horses to and from the fairgrounds. The week of the Fair was spent camping and enjoying the Fair as a family. Great memories were made that helped instill the love for the Fair in the hearts of his children, grand children and great grand children who still continue the tradition today.

Dick's dedication and contributions; made him a tremendous asset to the Otsego County Fair. His big-heartedness will be remembered by all who knew him.