

In 2000, Ed Wedman pulled out of the driveway with his truck and an empty trailer headed to look at a horse in Viking, Alberta. When he returned to the



family farm in Leduc, trailer no longer empty, his family was surprised.

However, they weren't surprised because a new horse had appeared, "It was Dad's habit to take the trailer any time he goes to "look" at a horse after all," comments Ed's daughter Carrie. But they were surprised at the size of the new horse Ed brought home.

In the pen stood a little grey gelding, measuring only 14.3 hands. Carrie says, "He certainly wasn't what we were expecting when dad was looking to replace his heading horse."

It's was the Ghost Walker's "really kind eye," not his size, that sealed the deal for Ed.

AQHA registered Ghost Walker, also known as "Homer," was bred in Red Deer in 1993. In 2000, when his old heading horse was deemed too old for the game, he was shopping around for a heel horse and came home with Homer.

Ed and Homer successfully heeled for 3 years. Homer was a ranch horse during the week and

then loaded into a trailer and he became a roping horse on the weekend. Carrie says, “Although we’ve never tallied up the rodeos and jackpots to calculate his lifetime earnings though we know it would be impressive.

“With over 40 years of experience in the horse industry breeding, showing, and roping on Appaloosas and Quarter Horses we have come to understand the value of a great horse. The money earned is only one aspect of that. Homer has not only paid for himself in roping winnings, he is also a rare animal able to adapt to whoever is riding him.”



The Leduc property has been the family homestead since 1892 and has been home to five generations of Wedman’s. Farming beef, dairy, grain, and hay for over one hundred years, it was Ed who started breeding horses.

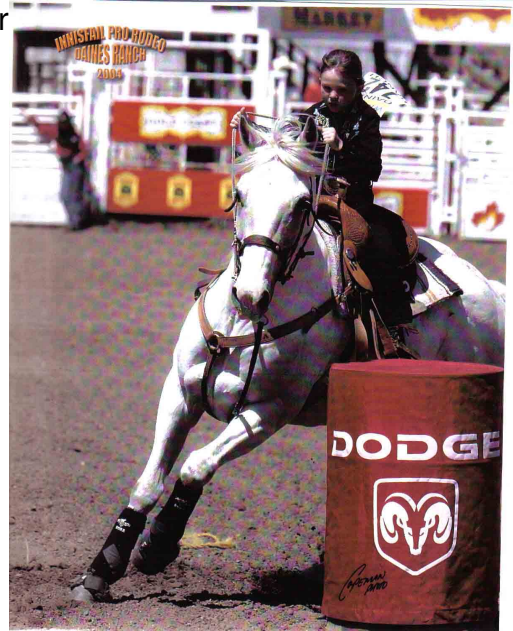
His dad bought him his first horse when he was three. At age 16 he got his first mare and has been buying, breeding, and selling ever since. “But I’m a horse collector, not a horse trader,” he states, laughing.

And Homer is not going anywhere in the near future. “My grandson took him away from me,” Ed says.

Lane is seven years old and is already swinging a rope off of Homer. In fact, their website, Crossbell Performance Horses, states Homer as “Sold to Tate, Lane and Teah (as long as Opy can borrow him).”

Homer is still the go-to heeling horse but has also become the go-to horse for beginners. Ed explains, “He can read people. He ignores beginners but if you know what you’re doing, you’d better hang on!” At the 2004 Innisfail Pro Rodeo, Homer went from a roping saddle to a barrel saddle to run the Pee Wee Barrels for a six year old girl on the same day.

Carrie says, “He may not be the biggest boy in the pen, but if all horses were judged on heart and intelligence instead of stature Homer would tower over



the others.”

Ed remembers when the grandkids were younger, he bought them a pony, who turned out to have a little too much attitude. So, Ed sold the pony and tried to give his grandkids the money. Tate and Teah wanted to use the money to buy Homer from their “Opy,” but Lane disagreed, saying why should they pay money for Homer when they already had him.

That’s a smart little cowboy in the making.