

# *Sarvar PFF*

04/23/1993 – 08/21/2009



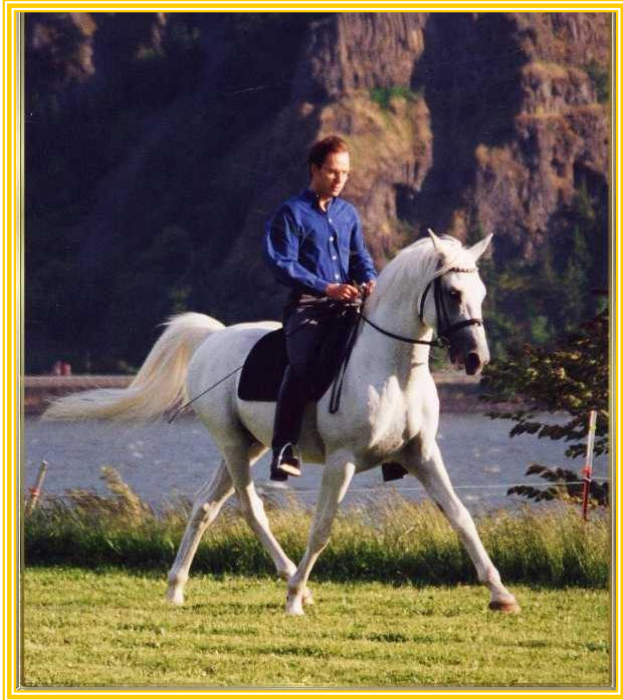
*Sarvar PFF* died August 21, 2009. He was born April 23, 1993. His grandsire was the European Champion, *Shagal*. His sire, *\*Shandor*, was a noted sire in America. *Sarvar's* dam, *Sjonja*, was my highly successful daughter of the North American foundation sire, *Hungarian Bravo*. Three more of *Sjonja's* sons were also kept as stallions.

When *Sarvar* was one month old, I moved to southern Illinois with ten horses. He spent his youth there in huge open fields. I boarded him and his half brother, *Szamos PFF*, at a small private stable to "civilize" them. *Sarvar* was four when he was evaluated with very high marks, including a 9 for type, and 8's for head, neck, and trot. He grew to be an impressive snow white stallion, 16 hands, a 21 cm. cannon, and a magnetic, charming personality. The children called him "Prince Charming".

I moved back to my home in Washington State in 1997. I had leased *Sarvar* to a family in northern Illinois for a two year period. The people had wanted to lease *Szamos*, but at the last moment accepted *Sarvar* because *Szamos* had injured a knee which I wanted to monitor myself. During that period *Sarvar* was bred to a variety of purebred Arabians, thoroughbreds, and warmbloods. *Sarvar* was bred to his full sister, *Sonata PFF*, also on lease. *Sonata* had received the highest marks in the country the year of her inspection. Tragically, while still under lease, *Sonata* died the following year as the result of a breeding accident, after having had only one foal.

I was able to bring *Sarvar* home to Washington at the end of that lease. I promised him I would never let him or any of my other horses ever go out on lease again. Fortunately, over the next several years I was able to breed *Sarvar* to a number of my own purebred Shagyas and Polish Arabian mares, and a handful of outside mares. His get are scattered across the continent, competing in dressage, endurance, eventing, and show jumping, as well as adding to the genetics of quality Shagya stock.

I met Dr. Thomas and Shana Ritter in 2001. They were delighted when I placed *Sarvar* in training with them. Thomas especially fell in love with *Sarvar*. The Ritters spent that summer here at my farm. I was in heaven. All my horses were in training, and I was getting several riding lessons every day, my life's dream! Thomas told me one day that *Sarvar* was causing him, "an identity crisis." Dr. Ritter said he had always considered Lipizzans to be the ideal classical dressage horse, but that *Sarvar* had caused him to reconsider that opinion. He said *Sarvar* had the mind and talent to go to the highest levels of dressage. It is one of my regrets that I was not able to keep *Sarvar* in training long enough to see just how far he could go. His piaffe and passage were developing beautifully. I know *Sarvar* missed Thomas as much or more than I did. They had a deep bond.



***Sarvar* with Dr. Thomas Ritter**

While he never competed, *Sarvar* was a hit at exhibitions. We had him at the Wisconsin Midwest Horse Fair, and at the first ever Northwest Horse Expo. At the Expo, *Sarvar's* stall was paneled with Persian type carpets. People walked by and stopped to see what he was standing on. Next door, our information booth was decorated like a Hungarian puzsta tea room. During the Stallion Parade, the announcer stopped reading my script in mid-sentence. *Sarvar* was putting on such a show at liberty, with his huge passage and towering rear, the announcer told the audience he just had to stop to watch the performance. *Sarvar* was a friendly, "people" horse. He always had his head over his stall door, waiting for the praise and admiration he knew were his just due.

I have three of *Sarvar's* daughters in my herd, and three mares in foal to him for 2010. His presence was honored my stable. I see his grace and charisma in his get. His life was cut short, but he will have a place in my heart forever.