

SHELBY'S STORY

Born in April of 1971, Shelby's obsession with horses was almost immediate. Family pictures show her on horses before her first birthday. One of her father's favorite stories was of her barely able to walk and running full speed up to a draft horse and wrapping herself around its leg. The horse simply turned its head to see what sort of fly had landed on its leg. Shelby always was afraid of nothing.

Her grandfather gave her and Lori (her sister) their first pony in 1977 when they moved to Salinas, CA. Jesse was a great friend to Shelby for many years, teaching her all about horses while patiently letting the entire neighborhood ride her, sometimes 3 girls at a time.

In 1982 Shelby's family moved to Truckee and the horse obsession really took off. In 1984, she got her first full sized horse, Bo, and started showing him in local shows. In 1987, she won an Arabian stud colt in a rodeo raffle and trained him herself. In 1987 she was crowned Truckee Rodeo Princess and the following year crowned Truckee Rodeo Queen.

It was about this time she started barrel racing in local races, winning a little bit of money here and there. Barrel racing soon became her passion and by 1995, she, along with her first husband and parents, bought a small ranchette in Sheridan, CA and she began raising and training barrel racing horses. At times she had 25+ horses between her own and a few that she boarded. During this time she also gave riding lessons to many.

Shelby was an incredible spirit. Nobody that met her didn't immediately love her. She was crazy, incredibly fun, dedicated and extremely loyal to her friends. Shelby was the kind of person who would stop at a roadside market or gas station for a bottle of water and end up with 2 new lifelong friends. She made friends everywhere she went.

In 2002, she separated from her first husband and shortly thereafter met who would become her second husband. She dated him for 3 years before marrying him in 2005. Immediately she knew she'd made a mistake and this man was not for her. Being the loyal and dedicated person she was, she tried to make her marriage work but in February of 2007, decided to move back to Fernley where her parents were living. In May of 2007, her estranged husband decided to end her life. He tampered with her truck and when it broke down 2 miles from her parents house, he drove up behind her and shot her twice. Tragically it was her father, Curt, who found her minutes later. With his background on the Highway Patrol, he knew she was not going to make it.

Shelby died 4 days later at Renown Medical Center surrounded by those who loved her most. Her estranged husband was caught within 12 hours of his crime and in November of 2008 was sentenced to life in prison with possible parole after 30 years. He is serving his time at Ely State Prison in Nevada.

After finding his daughter in that condition, Curt began to struggle with his cancer which was previously on the road to complete recovery. In May of 2008, one thing after another began taking on a toll on his physical, emotional and mental health and in October 2008 he passed away as well.

His wife Dona and their oldest daughter Lori, take some comfort knowing that Curt and Shelby are together in Heaven, are now perfect and free from pain and knowing the two of them, running around like fools up there having a grand time waiting for the rest of their family to join them in paradise!

The 3rd Annual Shelby Hagedorn Joannette Memorial Barrel race will be held in Reno, NV this year the weekend of September 12 and 13. A portion of the proceeds from this annual event will be split between Safe Embrace (a local women's domestic violence shelter) and the Wounded Warriors project which supports and assists our American heroes wounded during their military service.

Raffle tickets are available at a cost of \$5 each or 5 for \$20. These donations will help fund the barrel race. All donations are tax deductible and can be made payable to Harley's Angels. A paypal link is also available via this website. Thank you for your contribution.

