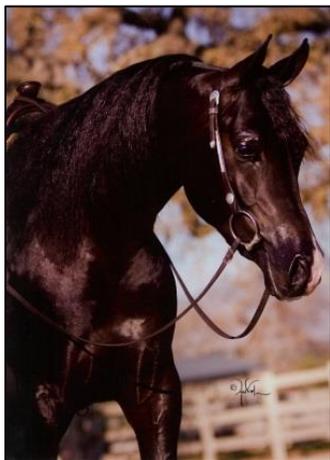


BRIONI BEY JCA
May 2, 2007 – August 18, 2014

Brioni was a beautiful boy with large, liquid eyes and a memorably black-bay coat that felt like velvet and shined like satin. As Tim said, "Brioni was my dream horse."

He joined our family from Jade Creek Arabians at 2.5 years old. You can see why we fell in love with him.



Sale photo of Brioni in early 2010

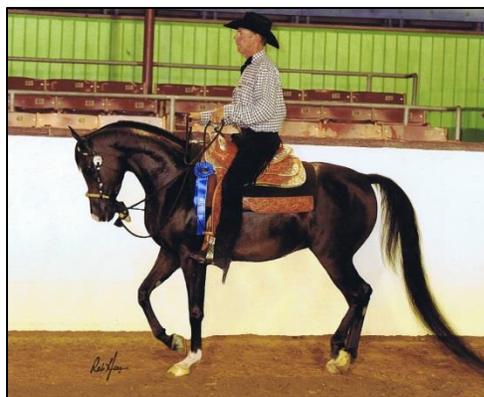


2010 at Culbreth's training barn soon after coming to Scottsdale from California

He came to Culbreth Equine Training and Management, where Chris Culbreth got him ready to show, and he had some early success.



Reserve Champion Western Pleasure at his first show in Santa Barbara September 2010



Winning again in 2012 with Chris Culbreth

Unfortunately, not for very long, as a bone chip was discovered in his fetlock that set back his show career.

Tim got to start taking lessons on Brioni this year and was loving the bond he was forging with his dream horse.



Tim & Brioni January 2014

We decided to take him to Hidden Meadow Ranch for the summer to let him have a break from four years of training, just learn to be a horse and do some trail riding in the White Mountains. Tim was looking forward to having the most beautiful trail horse ever.



Brioni & Tim in front of Ranch House May 2014

Brioni arrived at the Ranch and first fell in love with the two miniature donkeys, Thistle & Iris, though it was unrequited love as they generally ignored his attentions. He wouldn't let them out of his sight for the first couple of days.



Brioni standing guard over Thistle & Iris

When he was turned out with other horses, a small group of mostly Arabians and part-Arabians, he took to pasture life like it was his destiny. He ruled his little herd of:

- Samarkhand (our 25-year-old first Arabian);
- Gwynscienna (24-year-old retired Arabian broodmare);
- HMR Watch Little Me (Lily, 3-year-old Quarter Horse roan filly);
- HMR Sshameus (3-year-old Arabian gelding);
- HMR Ssilverado Jack (Jack, our yearling roan half-Arabian); and
- Arthur, a 30+-year-old Ranch kid horse who didn't do well in the larger group of Ranch horses.

Brioni refused to come into the stall at night and loved visiting with the Ranch horses over the fence line.



Brioni visiting with Rebel & Stormy over the fenceline



In the shade, with old Arthur's sway back in the background

Tim took him on his first ever mountain trail ride on June 8, 2014. Many were nervous about how Brioni would handle it but not Brioni. No spooks, no missteps -- he went over logs, through rocks, up and down mountainsides like he had been doing it forever. Tim was very proud of his "Ferrari" trail horse!



Brioni impressed many people at Hidden Meadow Ranch with his intelligence, his capability under saddle and his beauty. Unfortunately, he loved pasture life too much and decided he didn't want to ever leave his little herd, even for trail rides. We split him off and put him in an individual pen next to another horse but he truly hated being away from "his pasture." He kicked the fence rails so hard that both back shoes were thrown, and he injured his back feet. Our great team at the Ranch knew something was wrong and took steps to get him down to the Valley where he could get the attention he needed. While not externally obvious, the trauma so comprised blood circulation to large portions of his back hooves that there was little hope of his living through the treatment and absolutely no hope of a recovery without significant lameness and ongoing pain. That was no future for an energetic, vital, beautiful young horse so, because he was in immense pain, we decided to let him go.

Dr. Nate McClellan at Chaparral provided great medical care for Brioni and, along with Brioni's regular vet Dr. Jerry Longworth, caring friendship to Tim and me when we needed it most. Resident intern Dr. Allison Forbes provided overnight care during the weekend for Brioni. Her special attention to our beautiful boy was so appreciated – she spent time with him, braiding his mane and tail, brushing him, just giving him love. She will have an amazing equine vet career. We appreciate them so very much.

Brioni passed peacefully, releasing two gentle breaths that sent shavings flying and perking up his ears as if he was seeing something good ahead. I hope it was a tree-shaded mountain pasture full of horses. Thank you to all who have loved and cared for Brioni during his all too short life.

