

Wing It

1987-2014

In the pantheon of legendary and great racehorses, Wing It is considered by many to be the best Appaloosa racehorse of all time. He was the first Appaloosa to earn more than \$300,000 and, at the time of this writing and 20 years after his retirement from the track, still holds that record and is Appaloosa Racing's All-Time Leading Money Earner.

Wing It was the first at many things. He was the first Appaloosa to enter and win races against Quarter Horses and Thoroughbreds where he was the only Appaloosa entered. He was the first Appaloosa to win an AQHA Graded Stakes race, and he was the first Appaloosa to win a mixed breed stakes race.



Born in March of 1987 in Texas, the huge red colt was the product of Hall of Famer Bill Jone's breeding program. Sired by Bull Nunneley and out of the Thoroughbred mare Damascus Honey, Wing It was subsequently owned by Drew Wigley and trained by Lewis Wartchow, Bob Gilbert and Henry "Red" Smith. From 2004 until his last day he was cared for by, and is buried on, Hall of Fame racing legend Victoria Ennis' Texoma Ranch in Kingston, Oklahoma.

Out of the gates as a 2-year-old in 1989, Wing It showed a level of prowess that foretold great success. In his first career start he won the Vallejo Futurity after winning his trial heat by 5 lengths; then won at Fresno, setting a new Appaloosa and All-Breed track record for 4 1/2 furlongs; then won the Star of Stars Futurity; then impressively won the Oklahoma Frontier Futurity after winning his trial heat by an unbelievable 17 lengths.

He continued his winning ways—breaking track records, earning medallions and making history—through 1990 and 1991, and then 1992 was a special year by any standard. He blew the field away in the Los Alamitos Handicap as the first Appaloosa to win a mixed-breed stakes race and then achieved widespread fame at the Bull Rastus Handicap by beating AQHA Distance Champion Griswold by 1 ½ lengths and setting a new track record. Also that year he became the first Appaloosa to win an AQHA Graded Stakes race at Hollywood Park in the PAP Handicap Stakes defeating four Quarter Horses and one Thoroughbred.

Overall Wing It was 26 of 37 starts with a blistering Speed Index of 132 and lifetime earnings of \$301, 242.00. Sound and strong, he won the coveted Horse of the Year title four times—back-to-back as a 2- and 3-year-old, then again in 1992 and also magnificently in his last year of racing, 1994.

Wing It's success was both unparalleled and ground-breaking. He was a fantastic ambassador for the breed with his widespread popularity. Whether or not he was the "all-time-greatest" Appaloosa racehorse will be debated as the breed continues to produce horses who break more records and achieve fame. Regardless, Wing It ranks among the best to ever step on a racetrack and, with his passing in 2014, takes his rightful place in the Appaloosa Racing Hall of Fame.

Major Accomplishments:

Year Place Stakes Race (CITY)

1989	FIRST	Oklahoma Frontier Futurity (Sallisaw)
1989	FIRST	Vallejo Juvenile Futurity (Vallejo)
1989	FIRST	Star Of Stars Futurity (Fresno)
1990	FIRST	California Appaloosa Derby (Santa Rosa)
1990	FIRST	Classic Derby (Los Alamitos)
1990	SECOND	California Coast To Coast Stakes (Sacramento)
1991	FIRST	Pleasanton Handicap (Pleasanton)
1991	SECOND	California Coast To Coast Stakes (Sacramento)
1992	FIRST	Bull Rastus Handicap (Los Alamitos)
1992	FIRST	The Pap Handicap (Inglewood)
1992	SECOND	Pat Hyland Memorial Handicap (Inglewood)
1992	THIRD	Pleasanton Handicap (Pleasanton)
1993	FIRST	Pleasanton Handicap (Pleasanton)
1993	FIRST	Cowboy Hall Of Fame Handicap (Oklahoma City)
1993	FIRST	Bull Nunneley Handicap (Los Alamitos)
1993	SECOND	California Coast To Coast Stakes (Sacramento)
1994	FIRST	California Coast To Coast Stakes (Sacramento)
1994	FIRST	Pleasanton Handicap (Pleasanton)
1994	SECOND	Silver And Gold Invitational Handicap (Pomona)

Year E.R.C. Race Championships & Awards

1989	Champion 2-Yr Old Distance Gelding
1989	Supreme Champion 2-Yr Old Of The Year

1989 Bronze Medallion
1990 Champion 3-Yr Old Gelding
1990 Horse Of The Year
1990 Bronze Medallion
1992 Champion 4-Yr Old & Older Gelding
1992 Horse Of The Year
1992 Bronze Medallion
1993 Champion 4-Yr Old & Older Gelding
1993 Bronze Medallion
1994 Champion 4-Yr Old & Older Gelding
1994 Horse Of The Year
1994 Bronze Medallion