

Richard and Dolores Kurzeja reincorporated the IBHA in Indiana in 1971. At the start Dolores hand typed each registration certificate and took copies on a mimeograph machine. Today she feeds the data in the computer and then copies the papers. Every registration certificate has passed through her hands.

In addition to running the office, Dolores was instrumental in forming the first IBHA charter club. She was the first secretary for Mid America Buckskin Assoc. and held that position for several years. The club is still operating and is the oldest operating club of any buckskin registry in the world.

Today Dolores is still active on the following IBHA Committees: Registration – Chairperson, Convention – Chairperson and Youth Activity – IBHA Liason.

The following is an excerpt of the presentation at the Hall of Fame ceremony:

*Dolores Kurzeja 'Doll'*



Please humor us when we use the age old idiom – behind every good man there is a great woman. This definitely fits Doll to a 'T'. She met Rich at a wedding where they were bridesmaid and groomsman for a friend. Little did they know it that fateful night would bring together a union that would forever change the horse industry.

Doll grew up in Hammond, IN and lived in the city until she married Rich. Doll enjoyed dating Rich, he took her dancing and to shows in the city. She remembered how Rich was very nice and considerate while they were dating.

Doll is a very quiet reserved person, she happily endured the time at home raising a family while Rich was showing and training horses. When the kids became old enough to go along to horse shows, it became a family affair. She did end up showing horses and her favorite discipline was halter. She even recalled a time where she and Rich were in the same class and she ended up placing a head of him. Doll referred to her support work at home and in the barn as 'Squaw Work'.

In these 'quieter' days of not being on the road showing horses, Doll enjoys yard work and the peace and quiet it provides.

When asked what she would hope people could see from the outside looking in at her she stated, "I would hope that people could see just how happy and contented I am. I have a great life and am extremely proud of our kids and grand kids."

We asked Doll what piece of advice she could give us, "Just remember that when there are people involved – always expect changes."

Doll – we truly appreciate all the hard work and support you have provided us throughout these years and in the years to come. Thank you!

