

The Georgie Story

by Molly Haas

When I was 14, I bought my first horse under the guidance of my hunter-jumper trainer and mentor at the time in North Florida. Together we worked out a deal; she wanted a young horse we could train up and sell for profit, and I was a willing candidate to take on a summer project. In exchange for board and lessons, I would clean stalls and ride after school each day.



March 22, 2005: The first day Georgie and I met

In a bit of a reckless maneuver, we agreed to buy an OTTB, sight unseen. Not knowing what to expect when a trailer pulled up our drive, we were greeted by a 7 year old dark bay thoroughbred mare named Georgie... to me, it was love at first sight. Her gentle demeanor and calm disposition was just what

I needed as a fairly timid rider. We spent the next 3 years training and showing her around North and South Florida in both dressage and hunter divisions; when we weren't training, she was the perfect family horse and safely carried cousins, nieces, nephews and even my parents around on quiet trail rides. The more time I spent with Georgie, the harder it became to remember that she was a business transaction, and that I shouldn't become too attached.

As my high school career came to a close, I realized there was no way I could afford to bring Georgie with me to college. I was faced with one of the hardest decisions in this life: to sell my best friend. Agonizing over this decision for most of my senior year, I finally met a family at a show that seemed to be a perfect match and were interested in Georgie. Having found her a new home, I said goodbye to Georgie on October 30, 2008, confident that the young daughter and devoted mother would give her the best life. Within the next few years, I moved to Omaha, Nebraska for college, got married and decided to go back to school to become a Licensed Veterinary Technician. Even through life's changes, I would occasionally check in on Georgie's new family to see how she was.



October 30, 2008: Saying goodbye at her new home

Seven years later, just before Thanksgiving of 2015, I saw Georgie featured in a sale ad on Facebook. I reached out to my old trainer, wondering if she had room at her farm to give Georgie a nice retirement in South Florida; she admitted she didn't need another mouth to feed, but urged me to consider making her an offer. As a vet tech student and newlywed at the time, I couldn't afford to have a horse moved from Florida to Nebraska. Unbeknownst to me, my trainer reached out to Georgie's owner, asking if she'd consider helping me out financially so Georgie could come back to me.



December 16, 2015: Georgie's arrival to Omaha

In a gesture of overwhelming kindness, Georgie's owner contacted me to ask if she could give Georgie to me, wanting nothing more than Georgie to have a good home in which to retire. Astounded at her generosity, I graciously accepted her offer to be reunited with one of my best and oldest friends.

On December 16, 2015, Georgie made the journey from Ft. Myers, Florida to Omaha, Nebraska. Since having her back in my life for the past two years, I have experienced so much joy in the simplest things: spending time with her on a Saturday afternoon, being able to utilize the veterinary knowledge I've gained for her

benefit, and most significantly, watching my husband interact with her and become comfortable around horses. For a horse that was initially a business deal, Georgie has become a life-changing friend, and I am so grateful to have her back with me.



May 13, 2017: Molly's husband Brad with Georgie on a Saturday afternoon