

ROTHERWOOD ROYALIST (CHARLIE)

Firstly, I would like to thank you so very much for this wonderful and very moving gift of your Journal I received today.

This is still a very deep and sad memory for me that he died without having fulfilled his great expectations in South Africa. Indeed, every day I look at Charlie - as we called our adored boy - as I have a beautiful portrait of him on my study wall.



Painting by Mark Smallman, 1986

I will never forget that day he left the farm for the airport and his long flight to South Africa. I have a photograph of my parents, holding him in our yard, before we all bid our farewell. There were many tears that day.

We understood during the various communications regarding his tragic death, that this was due to him being overfed (like a Thoroughbred or Warmblood) in the quarantine station without any adequate exercise developing an advanced stage of laminitis. No treatment thereafter could reverse the damage caused.

My memory will always be of our boy being Champion throughout too short a



life at the highest level, including Royal Welsh Show, beating local Welsh breeds, as well as coming from Wiltshire, and also The Royal Show.

I have close friends who lived in SA at that time and they called me from there to tell me that Charlie was on TV being filmed after his arrival in Johannesburg.... yes, a ★Star...

Again thank you so very much for remembering dear Charlie..... one of my ponies that I could not and never will forget.....

Best wishes and my regards

Sue Walden 2021

And why 'Charlie'? Because of his 'Royalist' connection with reference to Prince Charles, The Prince of Wales.