

My, oh my, where do I begin?! As a young girl, I, like many other little girls, found a fascination and obsession with horses. Imaginary horses became my lifelong friends. An old broom stick or foot stool became my fantastic mount, maybe in a chestnut or beautiful dark bay. Finally, I was surprised one Christmas with my very own beautiful bay pony under the Christmas tree. Obviously, one of the very most prominent memories from my childhood.

Funny, how the science of genetics work. For a year I watched my young daughter obsess over horses, just as I had so many years ago. I watched as she created the same energetic mounts out of the back of the couch, an old branch she found laying in the backyard, even her little sister had to bear the brunt of becoming the large black stallion! My very first thought?..How lucky am I and what fun are we going to have shopping for horses!!

Well, one thing we learned early on is that there are a lot of people with a lot of different horses, that are quite willing to get rid of them quickly. We knew what we wanted and needed and we knew that our patience would pay off. After only a short while of looking and asking around, fortune found us by the name of Teri Lindsay. If anyone would have a fantastic pony it would be her! Not only did she have one....but she had two very good prospects. Just a matter now, of deciding which one.

We took a little while to mull things over, as there was still much to consider. Our daughter continued to ride her borrowed mounts and then she was scheduled to attend South Algonquin Camp for a week. At the end of the week she came bouncing home and informed me that we were offered the opportunity to bring the pony home and try her out for a month. Well anyone that knows me and my daughter would know that the pony was coming home for trial, but there was no chance that she was ever going back! Reese's Pieces arrived at the farm the Monday of Labour Day Weekend 2009 and was the love of our lives from then on!!

From the time of her arrival Reese and Natasha were inseparable. She was lovingly referred to around the farm as "Moose Face" and there wasn't anyone who could pass her by without giving her a loving pat. Reese took Natasha on to compete from the C levels to the B level of the Prince Phillip Games with the Victoria Pony Club. Her laid back attitude and confidence was apparent when you could find her sleeping, or in her "power-save mode" as we called it, in between her turns. When it was her turn, look out, because she was the master of the games. If she was needed for other riders in different levels, Reese was up for the challenge, treating every one of her riders as though they had been a team forever.

Reese and Natasha competed in show jumping and dressage and received a multitude of ribbons and awards. Natasha and Reese were a team and it showed. When not dressed in their finest show attire, Reese and Natasha (and sometimes more), could be seen in the back fields at the farm hacking around and having fun. As a parent, there is no value that can be placed up on knowing and trusting that the pony you have chosen for your child is the safest and the best. We always laughed that if we could somehow move Reese into our house we would have her there, in a split second.

Our Reesie-Girl was a teacher, a partner and a best friend to Natasha.

It was with very heavy hearts that we had to say goodbye to our sweet friend. She will remain forever a very special part of our lives and she is missed each and every day. We take great comfort in knowing that wherever special horses go after they have passed that our Reesie-girl is there looking down on us with that heavy bottom lip and relaxed back leg giving Natasha all the pointers that she always did to succeed as she moves on to the next stage of her riding. We love you sweet Reesie.