



William (Bill) Melendez

- Licensed Arabian Judge since 1996
- Judged all levels of competition; former chair of the Education and Evaluation Commission

I was fortunate to be introduced to the Arabian horse as a teenager and have been involved with this spectacular breed, and only this breed for over 50 years. The friendships and relationships that have been forged as a result of this involvement could never have been duplicated had my life taken a different course.

I've had my judges' card since 1996 and have been privileged to judge many local, regional, and national shows throughout our country and in fact, the world. Back in the early 2000's I was nominated to the Arabian Horse Association Judges and Stewards Education and Evaluation Commission. It was my privilege to serve on that commission through 2015. I served as chair under then Judges and Stewards Commissioner, Stan Morey for a good part of that time.

It has been my honor to be a part of this Arabian Horse community. I have watched and been part of so many positive experiences for many, including myself and my family. When my son was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia in 2015, the Arabian community rallied behind him, his mother and myself and was a big part of pulling him through.

I wish to thank each and every one of the people that have been a part of my Arabian experience. I miss the people that I got to know through being a part of the judging community who are no longer with us. In particular, Vickey Bowman and Pat Thompson, who were there for me from the beginning of my judging career.

I thank everyone for the honor to include me in the prestigious Arabian Horse Judges Hall of Fame. It is an amazing group of people that I am now a part of. I also wish to congratulate my fellow inductees. I am proud and humbled to share this honor with you.

