

## 2001 Mother of the Year – Carol Waldal

Dear OHJA,

My name is Kristi Waldal, and I am writing to nominate my mom, Carol Waldal, for the Mother of the Year Award. There are many reasons why I believe my mom is worthy of this award.

I ride with Vicki Zacharias at Rain Creek in Oregon City. My mom drives me three times a week to Vicki's. This might not sound very out of the ordinary until I tell you that we live in Battle Ground, Washington, and it takes us 50 minutes to get there from our house. On weekdays, we usually don't get home until around 7:30 p.m. because I have to ride two horses. On Saturdays, we are usually gone for half of the day. My mom waits patiently for me to finish. Because of the time I spend at the barn, my mom has very little time to do things she wants to do at home or other places. She sacrifices a lot of her time for me.

She does not complain about all the time we are gone to the barn or horse shows. A lot of times in the summer, my mom is not home very much, and even if she is, we are only home for a week or two, and then there is another show. My mom enjoys going to the shows and helps out a lot. She is a really big help to me. I am really grateful for everything she does. At shows, she helps the whole barn, not just me. She helps clean stalls and bridles, tack up horses, and brings everything we need up to the ring. She goes to the ring to check the schedule and helps set jumps. Not only does she do physical things to help, but she also gives me advice or helps calm my nerves.

Although this sport is expensive, my mom does not complain about the money being lost. She understands when I need something and buys it.

My mom does many other things that make her deserve this award that do not involve horses. She lends a comforting ear when I am having problems at school. She listens to my problems and my dreams. When I need help with my homework, she is there to help. My school, Portland Christian, is a half hour away, but my mom drives a friend and me to school every morning. If I need to stay after school to work on a group assignment, my mom stays there. She even takes several of my friends home without complaining.

I am extremely grateful for everything she does for me and I love her very much. She sacrifices so much of her time and money for me, and I want to show her how thankful I am by nominating her for this award.

Sincerely,  
Kristi Waldal