

September 28, 2010

Dear Kathy and the OHJA Board of Directors,

Enclosed you will find my nomination for the OHJA Senior Sportsman of the Year Award. I truly believe that my friend Joe Reagan is an excellent representation of the qualities a person must possess to be called a "sportsman" or earn recognition for "sportsmanship".

You hear people say all the time, "that man deserves an award". So many people in our sport-parents, partners, owners and friends, go above and beyond each and every day, standing ringside, without recognition. This man, that I am proudly nominating for the senior sportsman on the year award, is not only an incredible pillar of support for his horses, partner and our equestrian community, he is a truly great guy. He is the first person to clap and say great job after a good ride and to lend a hand to anyone in need. He has graciously donated his beautiful farm to fundraise when a member of our community needed our help. He has provided an opportunity to ride and show to many a child and adult alike on countless of his fabulous horses. I speak from experience when I say, he is even friendly when bumped into at the grocery store! This is a person that has experienced loss and personal health issues this year and, despite this, always shows up with a smile. Joe Reagan is someone I admire and am blessed to call a friend. I am incredibly proud to nominate him as the OHJA Senior Sportsman of the Year.

Sincerely,

Kelly Marriner-Smith