



## Evelyn B. Tumlin

June 22, 2015

The force that was Evelyn Hallonquist Brown Tumlin, 72, of Oxford, Mississippi, passed from this earth on June 22, 2015 at her home, Cedar Wind Farm. She is survived by her husband of forty-two years, Robert Lewis Tumlin, step-sons, Russell Tumlin, of Oxford, MS and Steven Tumlin, of Minden, Nevada, grandchildren Sierra Tumlin and Robert Tumlin, sisters-in-law Rita Daniel Brown and Anne Tumlin Hill, and nephew, Warren Thompson Brown II, and niece, Louise Hallonquist Fossaceca. She was preceded in death by her parents, Dr. Warren Thompson Brown and Josephine Shelby Barry Brown, and her brother, Tyre Harris Brown II. The consummate over-achiever, in her early life Evie was an accomplished marksman and sharpshooter, ice skater, scuba diver, folk singer and artist, as well as an equestrienne training for the Olympics. A proud member of Alpha Omicron Pi, upon graduation from University of Arizona with a degree in Zoology, she spent two years with Peace Corps in Liberia, West Africa. In the 70s she worked at NASA monitoring the astronauts' heart rates; taught English as a second language to children in Peru, volunteered at the Lima, Peru Zoo, taught high school students how to fly aircraft through the Magnet School Program in Houston; provided Houston with its first ever airborne traffic reports while also flying the plane; was a Charter Member of the 99s, member of the Whirly Girls, and was the 152nd female to receive a helicopter license; and won many air races and derbies. Evie was a USDF Bronze and Silver Medalist, USDF "L" Graduate, judging Dressage Schooling Shows, USDF

Region 9 Horse Person of the Year, USDF GMO Volunteer of the Year, The Dressage Foundation Century Club member (Team #178 with her mount Roemer Has It,) and held several leadership positions within USDF Region 9. Evie founded the Mississippi Dressage and Eventing Association and several United States Pony Clubs. Evie was a member of the Cedar Wind Dog Club. She developed Cedar Wind Farm, where she nurtured young riders in the areas of horsemanship, and the riding disciplines of Dressage and Eventing. A celebration of her life will be held later in the fall. She had a deep and abiding love and respect for nature her entire life. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations be made to the Oxford-Lafayette Humane Society, P.O. Box 1674, Oxford, MS 38655, or the Friends of the Mounted Patrol-Oxford, P.O. Box 1171, Oxford, MS 38655, or the charity of your choice. Online condolences may be left on the Tribute Wall at [www.colemanfuneralhome.com](http://www.colemanfuneralhome.com)

# Tribute Wall

ST

“ Many years ago I took lessons from Evie at Barry farms. I wish I could tell her how important she was to me and that I am now happy.

I was in my 20's and married to a very abusive man. There was no physical evidence but I was very traumatised. She would let me stay at the farm for weeks and earn lessons. It was such a respite from my home life. She probably thought I was mentally unstable. At times I thought so too. I did do some odd things. She was everything I was not and i admired her so much! She was strong, independent, and focused. I was a mess. I weighed 84 pounds because all I was allowed to eat was lettuce and cabbage soup. When I would go home from spending time at Evie's, I was weighed and punished if I had gained weight. Evie worried about my weight. She even threatened to only allow me to ride ponies until I gained weight. She found a wonderful horse for me, Maria. She was a TB off the track. I was in heaven. I paid for lessons but when my husband would tell me I couldnt take them that month, Evie would put me to work. I cleaned saddles, stalls, worked flower beds...anything just to ride. It was my only freedom.

One day I was working a young horse and a plastic bag blew into the ring. He crow hopped me. At 84 pounds I flew a big distance and landed on my head. It shattered my helmet. Had I not had it on, I would be dead now. My husband wouldn't let me go to the doctor. I couldnt walk for 6 weeks. Finally I got the courage up to leave. I left Maria with Evie and packed a few things into my car and left the state. I never told her I was abused. I looked for her today and found she had passed. I sobbed like a baby. I wanted her to know how much she meant to me. How i dont have a mental illness. I have extreme chronic PTSD. I have a mental trauma. The nightmares still haunt me nightly, but I smile when I think of Evie. She was my sanctuary in a scary world.

I do have a seizure disorder from the head trauma of the horse accident, but medicine has kept me seizure free for several years. Anyone reading this, always wear head gear. It saved my life. No matter how perfect people think your life is, if you are abused get out. The Porsches, the vacations, all the material goods is not worth

*it. It wasn't the lifestyle that made me stay. It was admitting my life was a mess and fear that kept me there. I am free. I have a wonderful husband of 15 years. I don't ride anymore. It brings back bad memories...but also good ones.*

*I remember Armani. We called him "cookie monster".*

*Thank you Evie for believing in me. Your strength gave me the courage to move on.*

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**Stacey** - June 16, 2016 at 04:45 PM

R(

*Stacey I wish we had been friends when I lived in Oxford and my daughter was riding with Evie. We loved her also. I suspect she knew your condition and knew how to handle it. I am the ex of a Narcissist though nothing like yours.*

*Review was introspective and a joy! So glad you got out of that situation!!!!*

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**Rachel Roseberry (Hortman)** - September 12, 2021 at 08:37 PM

AB

“*In 1992, we moved back to Mississippi from Kentucky and I was upset that there were no dressage people in Amory, MS. So when I found out about Evie down in the Delta at her Barry Farms, I drove for lessons from her several times and rode in the only USDF sanctioned Mississippi Dressage in the Delta shows. Evie recruited me to help support the first Mississippi Dressage and Eventing Association and I was member number 18. She truly desired for everyone to enjoy horses together and to create a safe horsey community. She and Bob moved to Oxford to further create that dream. They worked hard and spent countless hours on her dream farm and now it has been passed to us and Russell to maintain...Bless you, Evie. Thank you for all the laughs and hugs!*

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**Angie Brummett** - September 11, 2015 at 11:54 PM

RS

“ Yesterday I was shocked and saddened to learn of Evie's passing. My mind has been flooded with 34 years of memories. When we moved to Albuquerque in 1980, we moved into a subdivision that was building an equestrian center because my daughter, Danielle was passionate for horses even though we never had horses, and she had never ridden one. One day Danielle came home from school and said that her best friend Lisa was taking riding lessons from our neighbor, Evie Tumlin. Danielle was so excited she was jumping up and down. I contacted Evie, and our lives changed forever. Danielle' first horse was from Evie, and Danielle trained Gidget to be the fastest and best jumper in all our shows. Bob brought Gidget to our house Christmas morning as a surprise, and Danielle could not understand why Gidget was grazing in our front yard. After that, our lives changed forever - Danielle as an equestrian and me as a horse show mom! Evie introduced Danielle to Dressage (which is still her passion), hunter-jumper, eventing, fox hunting, vaulting, and pony club. Through Evie's confidence in Danielle, she went on to ride advanced level in eventing, was the first vaulter in New Mexico to earn her gold medal, and earned her "colors" in fox hunting at the age of 12.

Danielle and I travelled to Mississippi numerous times when Evie invited her to conduct clinics for her students. Our visits to Greenwood and Oxford were filled with memories. Danielle conducted her clinic, Bob and I cooked, and we visited some special places in Greenwood where Bob would spin tall stories of how Danielle and I were mud wrestlers, and he had picked us up along the road. Evie took me flying in Greenwood, and I have some great pictures of Bob's cat fish pond.

Danielle developed another passion from Evie in that she collects horses. She breeds and trains her own. However, she is so busy with her job at Bell Helicopter as an FAA quality engineer that she doesn't have time to ride her 9 horses. However, she loves and spoils each and every one of them.

*There are so many other stories and memories that I have of Evie, Bob, her dogs, and our friendship. I still cannot believe that she is no longer with us. She was always so positive and bubbly.*

*Bob & Russell - You know me and know that I am grieving deeply with you. You will all be in my prayers.*

*Rita Soto  
Oak Point, Texas*

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**Rita Soto** - June 28, 2015 at 07:38 PM

JC

“*I've only known Evie the past few years, and am astounded with her accomplishments in reading her obituary. What an amazing woman! I was lucky enough to witness her "Centennial Ride", and remember tears running down my face as her remarkable career in horsemanship was read during that lovely event. Evie changed the face of horsemanship in MS. I also remember my friend Carlyle's story of how Evie didn't hesitate to adopt the abandoned puppy Carlyle found in the road - perhaps it's the dog in the picture. Evie was truly a remarkable woman, full of distinctive talents - and with the biggest heart.*

*I send my deepest condolences to Russel and Bob.  
Julie Chadwick*

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**Julie Chadwick** - June 25, 2015 at 02:21 PM