

Nakoa Cody



It is with a heavy heart and with great sorrow that I share this news with you. While Jim and I were on vacation visiting our son in Hawaii, Nakoa Cody, called Nikki by most, Snickerdoodle by me, fell ill. Leora and Maureen did all they could to make her better. On December 21st, Maureen and Leora, with the help of Dr. Amy Rubin, had to make the decision to put her down. Nakoa was not alone through this very sad time. She was in the very capable hands of three women whom I respect and love.

Nakoa Cody was with us for 20 years and a therapy horse for PVTRA for 17 of those 20 years. She was a registered Appaloosa mare with great bloodlines. Her get-up-and-go can be traced back to the thoroughbred, Man O War, with her spots coming from the Appaloosa, Joker B.



Nakoa was our family horse. She has given us so many memories. We laughed at her "Nikki Dance" when she told us that she had had enough of working in the ring. She danced to her own song. She tested everyone and taught us how to be present and stay focused which is a good life lesson. She was a blast on the trails and learned her lateral movements when we marked the trail for the many, many ride-a-thons. She loved to dump over full wheelbarrows of manure. She is the reason that PVTRA is still in operation.



Nakoa Cody did good work as she carried so many PVTRA riders over the years with grace and humor. She looked great in spoolies and let us paint her. She accepted everything that we did to her that would make lessons more fun. She was honest. We always knew when someone was pinching her or uneven in their weight. She knew when someone was going to have a seizure, and she would stop. Nakoa opened her heart to our riders, and our riders opened their hearts to her.



She challenged our volunteers also. In the words of Diane, *"Nikki used to scare me at first, after I got to know her, she quickly became my favorite. I loved her smile and grooming her."* Sally remembers, *"I will always remember the run for my money that she gave me walking the trails for the Ride-A-Thon, I had to pay attention every minute! I will also always remember how Graham looked on her. She could be tough, but something worked with them. One of my proudest moments working with that group was seeing him on his own with her."* She loved her carrots and cookies and the loving hands of our volunteers as they groomed and loved her.

Nakoa Cody taught us to be better human beings. Our 'appy' mare is missed every day with tears on my heart.

Pat

