

Laurie Loveman
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BIOGRAPHY

A Quick Overview...

Laurie has always lived in northeast Ohio, moving in her teens from a suburb of Cleveland to the Chagrin Valley area. After her marriage in 1966, and the birth of her two children, she and her husband moved to a horse farm where they bred and raised Appaloosa horses. Ten years later, following a divorce, Laurie built a house in Geauga County, which is still rural. She no longer has horses at home, but close friends have a 150-year-old farmstead where they breed Appaloosa Sport Horses. Laurie likes to help out with barn-cleaning chores as time permits—her attempt at exercise.



Starting back, years ago!

Laurie's first formal English riding lessons were at the locally well-known and much loved Red Raider Camp in Novelty, Ohio. In weekly lessons she trained from Beginner to Advanced levels and passed her Junior Instructor Test in 1956.

In 1958 Laurie attended Ohio University, and for her required physical education course, she signed up for *Riding for Beginners*, a mostly trail-riding course through the hills of Athens County. Considering the stress placed on the status "beginner" in the course, her immediate goal was to try to act like a beginner, a role she failed within minutes of the first lesson. Out of kindness, her instructor—a member of the Egyptian Olympic Equestrian team—allowed her to remain in the class for two semesters and when he graduated and returned to Alexandria, he recommended Laurie to the Ohio University Physical Education Department to take his place as instructor, a position she held until returning to Cleveland in 1960.

Laurie's major at Ohio University was Agriculture. While not a large program such as that of Ohio State University, the courses were in depth and covered most crops and livestock husbandry, along with forestry and the biological sciences. This was of great value when she joined the staff of the Silver Spur Ranch Club, a western-themed vacation club which was also a working farm. In addition to helping with farm work on a part-time basis, Laurie managed a 35-head horse rental facility.

Upon her return from Ohio University, Laurie was awarded an American Cancer Society grant to train in cytology. Following the completion of that training, she trained in histology and later accepted the position of Supervisor of the Cytology/Histology Laboratory at Highland View-Cuyahoga County Hospital in Warrensville Township, Ohio. Laurie remained in that position and trained in gross pathology under the direction of pathologist William Chamberlin, M.D., until Highland View closed in 1966. Shortly thereafter, and for several years following, she worked part-time as a veterinary technician at Blue Cross Animal Hospital in Cleveland Heights, Ohio.

Laurie has been allied with the fire service since 1980 and has been a member of the Highland Hills Fire Department since 1990. She is an Ohio certified fire safety inspector and a University of Cincinnati graduate with a bachelor's degree in Fire and Safety Engineering Technology. Currently, Laurie serves as a principal member of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Technical Committee on *NFPA 150 Standard on Fire and Life Safety in Animal Housing Facilities*.

Laurie maintains a website at www.firesafetyinbarns.com which is focused on fire prevention and protection for horse barns and other livestock facilities. In addition to having written many articles for both equine and fire service publications over the years, Laurie has written four novels. Her Firehouse Family series is set in the 1930s and features horses and firefighting as integral parts of the plots. Information about her books can be found at www.laurieloveman.com and she can be contacted through either website.