



Brownlee O. Currey Jr.

Brownlee O. Currey Jr., former U.S. Equestrian Team Foundation chairman, died on March 18 in Nashville, Tennessee. He was 91.

Mr. Currey, of Franklin, Tennessee, was born on Aug. 14, 1928. He graduated from Vanderbilt University (Tennessee) with a B.A. in business administration. He worked as a securities broker for Equitable Securities until 1957, when he transferred to the company's New York office. After the firm sold to American Express Company in 1968, he continued in the position of director, a senior vice president and a member of the executive committee of Equitable Securities Morton & Company, Inc., a subsidiary of American Express. In 1970, he became vice chairman in New York of the Commerce Union Corporation, which became Bank of America.

Mr. Currey went on to purchase the Nashville Banner, where he held the positions of chairman, chief executive officer and publisher between 1980 and 1998. In 1989, he co-founded Osborn Communications, a public radio company, and served as chairman until it was sold in 1997. He also served in the U.S. Air Force as a fighter pilot.

Mr. Currey and his wife Agneta Akerlund Currey were owners in the Touch Of Class syndicate. Touch Of Class won individual and team gold with Joe Fargis at the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles. Mr. Currey served on numerous boards throughout his lifetime, including the Show Jumping Hall of Fame and Museum and the Volunteer State Horsemen's Foundation. He served as chairman of the USET Board of Trustees from 2013 to 2019 and was a USET honorary life trustee.

"My father was a character. He really enjoyed life," said his son, Christian Brownlee Currey, who competed internationally in show jumping and founded FarmVet. "He

was a storyteller and had a very keen, dry sense of humor. There was not a person he didn't like; he could walk into any room and get along with everyone. He was the epitome of New York sophistication with Southern charm."

In 2016, the USET Foundation awarded Mr. Currey the R. Bruce Duchossois Distinguished Trustee Award. In addition to his stewardship of the USET, Mr. Currey led several charitable efforts, including chairing a benefit for the American Horse Shows Association during the National Horse Show, co-chairing the Nashville Charity Horse Show in 1985, and hosting the Music Country Grand Prix (Tennessee) to benefit Easter Seals and the Saddle Up! therapeutic riding program. In 1984, Mr. Currey received Tennessee's Outstanding Achievement Award from Governor Lamar Alexander.

Mr. Currey is survived by his wife Agneta; children, Christian Brownlee Currey, Stephanie Currey Ingram and Frances Currey Briggs; and 12 grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Vanderbilt University, Gift Processing Office, PMB 407127, 2301 Vanderbilt Place, Nashville, TN 37240 or Montgomery Bell Academy, 4001 Harding Road, Nashville, TN 37205.

Chippendale's Boy DZ

Sloane Coles' five-star grand prix show jumper Chippendale's Boy DZ was euthanized after shattering his pastern while competing at the Winter Equestrian Festival in Wellington, Florida, on March 6. He was 11.

The Zangersheide gelding (Chippendale Z—Wakilly, Lupicor), owned by the Springledge Group, consisting of Landon and Carol Butler, Alan and Irene Wurtzle, and the Coles family, joined Sloane's string in

January of 2018 and was based out of her own Spring Ledge Stable in The Plains, Virginia. Dutch rider Tonny Leeuwen produced "Chip," and horse dealer Katherine Walsh found him for the Springledge Group.

Chip and Sloane jumped to many top international placings together in 2018 and 2019. The most notable included ribbons at the Split Rock Jumping Tour (Ohio), Thunderbird Show Park (British Columbia), the Great Lakes Equestrian Festival (Michigan), Spruce Meadows (Alberta), the Devon Horse Show (Pennsylvania) and Live Oak International (Florida).

"No one believed that Chip would turn out to be the horse that he was," said Sloane. "Tonny put a lot of time into him and really made him into an incredible horse. Chip has always had an amazing jump, very careful and scopey, but his flatwork needed patience. Once it came together, every time I asked him to step up a level, he improved and learned something. He jumped his first two-star grand prix at the end of his 9-year-old year. He wanted to learn and came along very quickly."

In September of 2019, Sloane made her Nations Cup debut aboard Chip at the CSIO5* Spruce Meadows 'Masters' tournament. They started the 2020 competition season by competing in CSI4* and CSI5* classes at WEF with aspirations to make another Nations Cup team.

"He was the best one that I could have picked to be my partner in my first international team experience," said Sloane. "Chip had all the ability and was brave; I was lucky to have him. He had a lot of personality; he was like a golden retriever: kind, loving and loyal. He loved everyone but especially his groom John Alvarez; they were best friends. We all feel very lucky to have had such a special horse even for a short time."