



## Milton Carroll "Hogg" Jones

By Daughter Marsha Carroll "Tooter" Jones Smith



Hogg Jones was born 100 years too late. This man had a love for God's creatures and a love for mankind. Hogg was born Milton Carroll Jones in Blanco County, Texas to Edna and John Jones on November 21, 1926. He was the middle of nine children, five boys and four girls. Growing up, he loved horses. His dad always had teams around because that was their only transportation. Every Sunday would

find the family loaded up in the wagon going the five miles into Blanco to go to church. When he was fourteen he wanted to quit school and break horses. His dad told him he would get all the horses he could break if he would just stay in school. That satisfied him until a teacher made him mad, he crawled out the window, got on his horse and never went back to school.

Hogg served in WW II and couldn't wait to get home and back to his horses. He had a blue mare that he ran match races on and roped on, too. One day he made a bet that he could rope on the mare with just a halter and she would work as she always did. He won the bet.



Hogg moved his wife Helen Ruth Nowotny Jones, daughter Marsha Carroll “Tooter” and son Rocky Ray to Edwards County, Texas in the fall of 1954. They moved to the Hackberry Ranch which was then called the Featherlite Ranch. Hogg and his family moved off a ranch in Blanco County that was owned by the movie star Jimmy Stewart. Hogg and his family ran goats and Hereford cattle for Mr. E. G. Kingsberry. In July of 1955, Hogg and his family went to the Fourth of July Rodeo in Rocksprings, Texas and that started his rodeoing. In 1959, Hogg and his partner in the team tying won the last saddle that was given at the Rocksprings rodeo. His granddaughter Kit LaRee Smith Ramzinski has the saddle today. There was not a Rocksprings or Utopia rodeo that was held, that Hogg was not there and in the arena horseback. He had flagged many rodeos and ropings and in the 1970s had steers and calves that he hauled to the rodeos. Many years he was pickup man for Tommy Priour going to college rodeos, and around the state of Texas where Tommy was booked for a rodeo; Mason, Criders, Rocksprings, Utopia, Temple, College Station just to name a few. Hogg also worked with show horses for several years.

Hogg loved working horses to a wagon. In 1985, he bought four Percherons from Nebraska and drove them in the 1986 Texas Sesquicentennial Wagon Train and at least eighteen movies, The Good Ole Boys, Lonesome Dove, A Lantern in Her Hand, Gambler Five, Rio Bravo and many more. Helen and Tooter were extras in the movie True Women and Hogg and Helen were extras in a lot of the above named movies. Hogg gave his love of horses to his daughter, who started breaking horses at the young age of eight. She and Hogg did a lot of things together with their horses. He always saw to it there were calves and steers for Rocky and Tooter to rope.

Hogg was one of the first ones to be at the Fourth of July rodeo because he was usually in the arena most of the time. In the late 1950s, some men formed a roping club in Barksdale, Texas where Hogg also helped build that arena. He was very well liked by all who knew him. Hogg and Helen went to South Dakota, Montana and Cheyenne, Wyoming with his big horses to drive them in trail rides and help feed the bulls at the Frontier Days in Wyoming. He was pickup man several years in Nebraska for a man he knew there. Hogg’s son also helped him in the arena at times.

This man had a love for life and enjoyed everyday. He would get up of a morning and go out to feed his horses and say, “They are the only ones glad to see me because they all nicker at me”. At

times he would have eight to ten saddle mules and that many horses in the pen. They were all ridden at one time or another because working on a ranch then, you needed good horses and mules.

Hogg went to be with his Creator, September 27, 1999 and his funeral services were held where he loved to be, in the Rocksprings arena. His little team of sorrel mares carried him from the arena to the cemetery for his last ride. His family wanted him to go out like he loved life, with his horses.