



ALL COWBOY & ARENA CHAMPIONS

HALL OF FAME



Darrell “Sparky” Sparkman

Founders Inductee



Darrell “Sparky” Sparkman was born in Kerrville, Texas, May 13, 1933. When he was three his family moved to San Antonio. He went to UT Austin then into the Air Force. When he got out of the Air Force he started rodeoing trying to ride bulls and couldn’t, so he started clowning in 1953 and clowned until his death in 2003. He did shows for and was highly recommended by Jake Pope Rowel Rodeo Co., Bill Huffman, Robert Schall, Al Ham-

mond, H.A. Raeckes, Nick Kaan, Jim Ivoy, Bernald Gummere, J.D. Nix, Sloan Williams, Rudy Vala, Tom Glasscox and several others.

He did the first annual Southwestern Championship Bull Riding in 1962, The Cassia Stake’s annual Pioneer Days in Oakley, ID, The all girl’s rodeo finals in 1977, The Cody night rodeo in Cody, WY in 1999. He did The Flying W in Bandera, TX in 2000; he also did the Devil’s River Rodeo in Sonora, TX in 1978. He also hauled bulls for Rudy Vela for many years.

Jake Pope, Spur-Rowel Rodeo Co. of Twin Falls, Idaho stated, “I have had Sparky Sparkman clown two rodeos for me and find him very good to get along with. Always ready to fill in with something whenever I needed him to take up a dull spot in my show. He also



has a very good Bucking Ford Car Act.”

Others highly recommending Sparky were Robert Schall, Schall Stock Ranch of Arlee, Montana; Veterans of Foreign Wars, Al Hammond of Eureka, Nevada; Nick Kaan for Niobrara County Fair and Rodeo of Lusk, Wyoming; H.A. Raecher and Sons of Gonzales, Texas and Sutherland Rodeo, Bernard Gummere of Sutherland, Nebraska.