

Zane Mitchell Todd



To say that rodeo coursed through my veins would be an understatement.

As the youngest daughter of Loyd and Faye Mitchell, I was riding a horse by myself by the age of two. It wasn't long before the love ignited and I was competing at area rodeos, including the Fourth of July rodeo in my hometown of Rocksprings.

My dad had Wanda Bush find me a good horse and train him, then sent me to spend a week with her so she could train me, too. It was there I learned to "take care of business, and move on." That training propelled me to the AJRA and on to the rodeo team at Texas Tech. After a

few months on the Tech rodeo team, I was crowned the 1972 Texas Tech Rodeo Queen, the Rocksprings PRCA Rodeo Queen, and Miss Congeniality in the 1973 Miss Rodeo Texas. It was a fast and furious two years of college rodeo, but after almost a lifetime of running poles, barrels, and ribbons for some of the greats, my love shifted focus.



I was beginning to realize my love for teaching and the gratification I would get from watching my students learn something new, so I tried something new, as well. I quit rodeoing and started concentrating my efforts on school and training the Texas Tech Masked Rider.

In the summer of 1976, I married Mike Todd and he and I started a life together, spending long days and nights traveling the PRCA circuit with our two girls. Although it's been over 40 years since I've been on a horse, I still get chills from the national anthem to the very last bull.