



Debby Malloy Winkler, devoted wife of Hans Günter Winkler and daughter of Vivien G. Malloy and the late Henry L. Malloy, died February 21, 2011 following a tragic fall from her horse at her home in Warendorf, Germany.

Born on April 3rd, 1959 in New Rochelle, New York, Debby was the second of five children. She was the granddaughter of Andrew and Nena Goodman and great Granddaughter of Edwin Goodman, founder of Bergdorf Goodman.

For the first twelve years of her life, Debby shared two passions: alpine ski racing and horseback riding. At age thirteen, after finishing third in the Eastern Nationals for her division, she reached the pinnacle of junior ski racing when she was selected to the US Ski Team development squad.

At that point, Debby knew that if she wanted to compete at a world class level, she would have to commit to a single sport: she chose her greatest passion, horseback riding. Explaining her decision to her mother in a way that was 'classic Debby', she said, "Mom, I can't talk to my skis."

Her successful riding career began in the show rings, pony clubs, and hunting fields of the United States. From an early age, Debby had a gift with horses. She instinctively connected with and understood them, committing herself completely to their care and training. Never one to delegate responsibility for these precious animals, Debby worked tirelessly to bring the talent she knew each horse possessed to its highest potential. As many in the horse world who were lucky enough to know her realized, she made it look easy. She was the penultimate horsewoman.

By the age of fifteen, Debby was considered one of the top junior riders in the country. Trained first by Judy Richter and later by George Morris, she showed at the highest level of competition, including The National Horse Show at Madison Square Garden, The Pennsylvania National Horse Show and The Washington International. Among her victories as a junior were the 1977 American Jumping Derby in Newport, RI, aboard "Frogs Have Wings" and the Rothman Grand Prix in Quebec City, Canada on "Plain Jane".

By the age of eighteen she was competing internationally. In France, she trained under Nelson Pessoa. Her next stop was New Zealand and then onto Australia. In 1985, She took the opportunity to return to the states to ride for Gaelic Stables in Virginia. It was there that she met Hans Günter Winkler who was conducting a clinic in Morven Park. After the clinic, Hans offered Debby the opportunity to ride his horses in Germany. Accepting his offer fulfilled her dream of returning to Europe to compete on an international level. This set the stage for the rest of Debby's life.

Once in Warendorf, Debby established herself as one of the premier equestrians on the European show jumping circuit. In her new home, many people were instantly taken with her kind heart, quick wit, and unrelenting tenacity to be the best rider she could be.

After Debby and Hans married in 1994, they established a formidable team as co-owners of a string of show jumpers. Hans, the most medaled Olympian in equestrian show jumping history, and Debby, his protégé, wife, and love, trained and showed many horses over their twenty-five years together.

Debby's successes on the European circuit included victories in Hamburg, Rome, Donaueschingen, Bad Hausen and Spangenberg, amongst others.

Debby was a devoted wife, daughter, sister, aunt and cousin, who will be missed terribly by her loving family. Despite the miles that separated her from her family in the states, Debby was committed to maintaining close relationships with all and was faithful and frequent in her correspondence. Those lucky enough to have known her will always remember her boundless energy, how she could light up the room with her warmth and humor. She cared not only through words, but deeds, and was a devoted lifelong friend to many. We will miss her gift for storytelling and her ability to make us laugh. She lived each day to its fullest, and loved every living thing on this earth.

There will be a funeral service in Warendorf on March 1<sup>st</sup>. The family is also planning a memorial service in Waccabuc, New York, on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011, which would have been Debby's 52<sup>nd</sup> birthday.