

In memory of . . .

Jo Hall

1924-1987

On October 8, 1987, the world of aviculture lost one of its preeminent citizens. Jo Hall, of Belton, Texas, fell victim to a massive stroke and was taken from us at age sixty-two.

Jo, whose lifetime had been dedicated to the loving care of the parrots she bred so successfully, was widely known for her writings which appeared in the major avicultural journals, but more importantly for the selfless advice and inspiration she provided to countless numbers of aviculturists, breeders, hobbyists and parrot keepers.

Her reputation for the development of successful hand-feeding techniques was such that Jo received a constant stream of phone calls from, and maintained a voluminous correspondence with, aviculturists throughout the world; all this in addition to the time-consuming daily tasks of maintaining her own collection and meeting the deadlines of the publications to which she contributed.


Jo's lifelong dedication to breeding began in California where she started with parakeets and cockatiels in 1951. She went on to work with lovebirds and finches before finally becoming interested in the larger hookbills. A lifetime member of the Williamson County Bird Breeders Association in Texas, Jo also listed among her memberships the American Federation of Aviculture and the National Bird Breeding Association. Since 1983, Jo Hall had been a regular contributor to *Parrot World*, the membership journal of the National Parrot Association, and also wrote its most popular feature *Q's & A's with Jo Hall*.

For Jo Hall, rearing parrot babies was never an impersonal, assembly-line task. That would have been unthinkable. Jo's practice with each and every chick she bred was always to handle and hand-feed it individually and lovingly, as a mother would her own child. So generous was Jo with her guidance for care and husbandry, that many of those fortunate enough to have received her parrot offspring were drawn to develop lasting friendships. For Jo Hall there were no secrets to be scrupulously concealed from others. Rather, Jo was

always anxious to pass along the benefits of her experience and expertise to anyone who sought her help.

Those of us who were blessed to have been touched by this wonderful lady, who got to know her, who were delighted with the marvelous quality of the parrots she provided, and who relied upon her to meet her deadlines, which she always did unflinchingly, will miss her very much. Our sorrow at her passing is tempered, however, by the comforting certainty that for Jo Hall

there's surely a special place in heaven above.

Jo had a serious and abiding interest in the research being done with macaws at Texas A & M University. Her family has suggested that those who would like to recognize her memory might offer a contribution in her name to the Exotic Bird Research Project, Texas A & M University, College of Veterinary Medicine, Dept. of Veterinarian Microbiology, VMS Bldg. 19, College Station, Texas 77843-4467. 



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