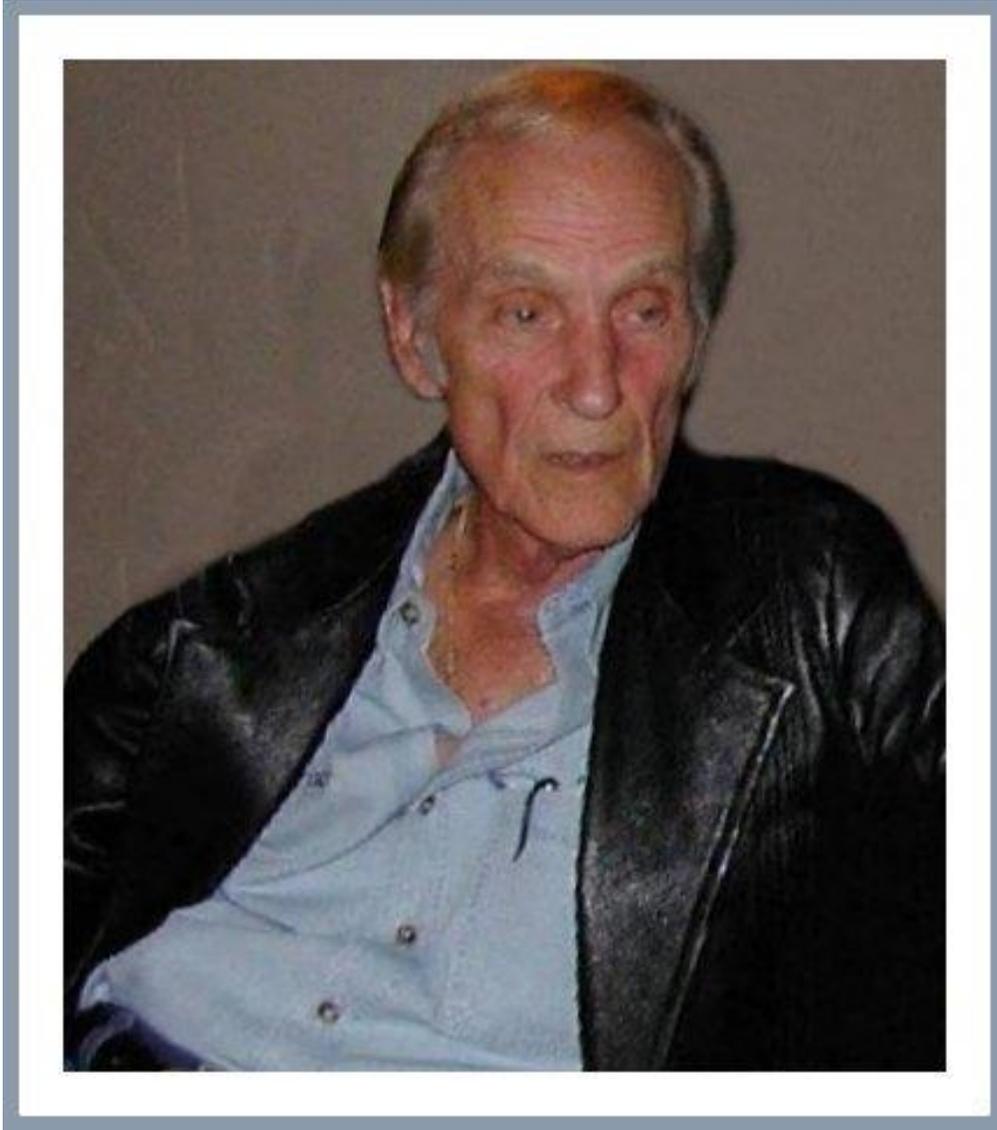


PROFILE OF A GUPPY BREEDER #5

Harold Morgan The Entertainer

Frank Schulerbrandt 1/30/2016



You are in for a special treat in this Series of a "PROFILE OF A GUPPY BREEDER". This man from the LONE STAR STATE always had a good story to tell and good jokes that made you laugh. It was always a pleasure to sit down *with mouth shut* and listen to the stories that this person had to share because you absolutely knew that something funny was going to evolve out of his stories. You know how you always hear stories about a guppy breeder but you never saw them, well the first time that I saw this man, I thought the only thing he was missing was his horse and six shooters. Some people are natural born positives for some of the things that they get involved with, so it is true with this person. It has been that way when he got involved with guppies and the clubs he was associated with. Now at this time it gives me great pleasure to introduce to you Mr. Harold Morgan a positive force for the International Fancy Guppy Association. Harold had great guppies as his red guppies routinely were in the best of show placings.

This will not be done in an interview type format, but letting the man do what he does best , tell the story.

I first got into the gups early on around the age of 10-11, **but like I have said as a teenager I found you don't get any of the choice girls with fish tanks** so , after pre teens I went to cars which seemed to work better, **and when I got too old to chase girls I returned to the fish.**

Someone loaned the lady I was dating an old Metaframe 5 gallon tank (which were stainless steel tanks with slate bottoms) **and to cover some of my misdeeds , I began to buy her fish for said tank.** In searching for fish for her/my tank I was impressed with the advance in colors and size of guppies

We joined the local aquarium club and the original Houston Guppy Club was spun off. My first good strain I purchased was snakeskins guppies from Glen Parrish. Months later I entered the offspring from those snakeskins in the 1975 St. Louis IFGA annual that I went to. I placed 2nd and a 3rd and off I went, all in.

I bought a trio of reds from a local shop (I take it that this was Harold's first time of housing red guppies). The Houston club had signed up for a show in 1976. We had a practice show at a shopping mall and invited Paul Gorski to come and judge us and the fish, from that visit by Gorski, a friendship that today is still in place.

Gorski at the time was still in the air force and was moving to Germany and had fish he was working with, so he was gracious , to send our club a large box of fish , in the box was you guessed it, reds. I got me a trio and bred them to what I was working with and bang out came the reds. **I won the red class in 1974 & 1975, thanks to the fact that Gorski was not showing guppies at the time, as we know happens when he shows.**

I lost the strain, luckily I had given Paul some of the reds also a trio to Ron Yater, a great fish man of long ago. Over time I had thrown some culls in a small pond on my patio. One day I noticed a fair male and pulled a trio out and put them in the fish room, and damn if I did not get the line back and won red class and came in second in male overall to Mike Lastella. In 1982 I dabbled with snakeskins and blues from Stan Shubel. I also dabbled with albinos from Jim Alderson.

I retired and moved to a place outside New Braunfels, Texas where I built a nice home with a fish room, all this on 16 Acres on a hill. Then in 2008 I had a stroke and had to sell my place and move into a retirement community. I was able to figure out how to set up tanks with fish from Shubel , Alderson and then I had another health issue and had to rehab and now only have a show tank w/ discus and angels, and a pair of red factor canaries.

I got my IFGA Fully Accredited Judging Card in 1978 and was luckily to be elected to the IFGA judging board some time later, not sure when ??? **I am now called retired,** I at peak number used mostly 40-50 tanks. thru the IFGA I have made life long friends whom I cherish their friendship , along with the ones that have passed on to the big fish room in the sky Paul Pullman, Mike Lastella.

“MIKE LASTELLA AND HAROLD MORGAN always had a good story for you or a good joke” when put together ... what a standup comic act they had...

I like that term **“to the big fish room in the sky”**.... Yes Harold let us not forget those who walked the path before or with us. As you can see from this article Harold is truly the entertainer and had good guppies to boot....

I just want to emphasize this again if it was not mentioned:

Harold was a member of the IFGA Judging Board, and as he puts it has been retired.

Harold also has achieved the MASTER BREEDER status, the highest accolade that is awarded by the IFGA, and he did this when IFGA guppy shows routinely had 600+ even 700+ entries at some shows.

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