



50th Anniversary
1943 2023
Rillito Park
TUCSON, ARIZONA
The Birthplace of
Quarter Horse Racing

EDDIE TELLEZ

Eddie started riding when he was in his early teens. Riding match races for various local people, Eddie received his jockey's license at the age of sixteen.

He spent his first summer away in Wisconsin. He worked on a ranch breaking babies and riding on the Illinois fair circuit. After the summer ended, Eddie came back to Arizona and worked on his journeyman's card in bricklaying. During the week he was a bricklayer and on the weekends he rode for his dad on the Arizona county fair meets. The summers took him to Prescott Downs.

After graduating from high school, Eddie and Emily soon were married. Emily coming from a family of horseman as well, both were prepared for the ride of their lives.

Thirty-four years later, they have two daughters, Joanna and Vanessa and two handsome grandsons.

Eddie has much gratitude and respect for the horsemen who have helped him along the way, like Owen McDaniel, Paul T. Robbins and Zip Peterson, just to name a few.

While winning all your major Arizona stake races on horses like Eternal Cherokee, Jet Set Baby, Such A Big Girl, Checks Deck Wonder, Deal Again and retiring Mark T Bars on his 64TH win for the Allred Brothers.

Being named Arizona quarter horse rider several years was a great honor. But with weight becoming too much for Eddie and his family to handle, retirement came in May of 1982.

Training horses became the next venture. With great success through out Arizona, life came to a halt while traveling with horses to Globe, in the fall of 1990, a car accident that claimed the life of his father Eddie Tellez Sr. and his nephew Damian Tellez. Eddie surviving with very serious injuries, forty-five days in the hospital and nine surgeries later, it just proves how prayer and faith can get you through anything.

He had the drive and determination to get back in the saddle despite the doctors saying he would never be able to get on a horse again. The pain and arthritis have become a constant reminder, but his drive still insists to get him up to do what he loves.

Although they say he is a "Man of Few Words," he is thankful for his family and friends.

And for the horses that keep him guessing!

*Leading Trainer at Rillito Park from
mid 90's to 2003.*