

**09-01-2014**

## **ANIMALS, FISH AND BIRDS IN MYLIFE**

**Growing up on a farm**

**I learned getting to close to animals...could cause harm.**

**Livestock was to produce and be eaten**

**Treated well, and never be beaten.**

**I was told...I frowned a brow**

**As a toddler seeing the first big red and white cow.**



**And as a young child I was not able**

**To alone pass the horses stable.**

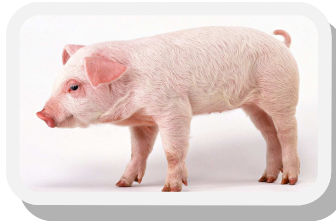


**For petting them as a child**

**They were to big and wild.**

**As soon as I was able to handle a fork**

**I was eating pork.**



**But did not like pigs that well**

**Because of the terrible smell.**

**Of chickens I was not afraid**

**And followed my Dad daily to gather what they had laid.**



**I grew up that beheading and plucking them was a normal way**

**To prepare them for dinner on Sunday.**

**But of a rooster I was not fond**

**And was never able to developed a bond.**



**But at school age I liked their early morning crow**

**To remind us it was time to get up and go.**

**Cats we had many on the farm**

**When holding them...they would scratch my arm.**

**They were not for play...**

**But to chase the mice away.**



**In 1951 we had Hector, a St. Bernard dog that slept in the barn**

**He alerted us for strangers coming to the farm.**

**He followed me to school each day**

**Until by a car he was hit one day.**



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**It was my first animal friend...  
And I prayed that to the dog heaven he went.**



**On the farm only two kinds of birds I knew...  
The ones that swam...and the ones that flew!**



**Then in 1970 for my daughters at a young age  
My parents bought them each a parakeet in a cage.**



**They also bought them a bowl with two gold fish  
Which feeding them they did not miss.**

**In 1967 we bought a puppy and named her Pasja  
And for 16 years had this adorable Chihuahua.**

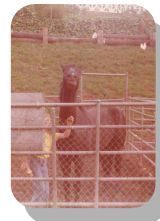


**She was tiny but very smart  
We all cried when she died of an ailing heart.**



**In 1971 we bought a white boxer in September  
But he died the same year in a December.**

**Our lovely pet...  
Was poisoned by eating oleander leaves according to the Vet.**



**“Lucky” was the first horse we acquired in 1976  
He was to spirited and to wild for the kids.**

**In 1978 we built a walk-in aviary are the entrance gate  
Of our new *Country Estate***



**For many years we enjoyed the song and tweets  
From our many multi colored finches and parakeets**

**In 1983 We were given a white kitten  
That had us all smitten.**



**But it's health was not the best  
It died young like the rest of its nest.**



**We searched for another horse in 1977 and found “Paula Poo”  
As gentle and meek as a few.**

**Then in 1979 we acquired “Kris” for a Daphne’s  
*Western Style* pleasure  
The sweetest horse by any measure**



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**Also in 1979 we bought "Skipper Host" a prize winning gelding  
A beautiful horse that had our hearts melting.**

**We were looking towards...  
Colette and him winning many Dressage awards**

**In 1982 we rescued a puppy boxer  
But soon had to take it to the animal doctor.**

**We received a distressing answer...  
To euthanize him for metastasized cancer.**

**In 1984 we acquired an expensive white Himalayan cat  
And once more we mourned and felt bad...**

**While on vacation...she stayed at our neighbors home  
Who had found her fur and bone**

**On his front lawn  
Where she had been attacked by a coyote at dawn.**

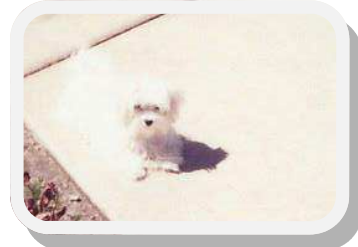
**In 1990 we acquired a white Pomeranian with a pedigree  
But unnoticed she jumped in the whirlpool after me!**

**And so also this puppy friend  
Reached its end.**

**We decided then...  
Not to acquire an animal again.**

**So now I travel to see  
An aquarium ...zoo... or... aviary**

**But most trilling to observe roaming free  
Are the big five on a safari**



**Marie Jose Temmink**

**01-11-2012**

**PASJA**

**Pasha, we named our first dog in the USA,  
And she lived sixteen years to the day.**

**A handful of fur, beige and white,  
A tiny creature that slept in the beginning day and night**

**Full grown she was still tiny,  
But always healthy and her coat very  
shiny.**

**She was always on guard  
And barked as a Saint Bernard**

**Not to let strangers near,  
As she had no fear**

**In grabbing some ones pants,  
Or biting a strangers hand.**

**She would Ype till her bark was hoarse,  
Always to protect us of course.**

**Her diet was one hotdog a day.  
And she was never sick , what can I say.**

**A tiny Chihuahua with a big dog bark  
That chased coyotes away in the dark**

**The master of house and yard,  
Our Pasha so very smart**

**When she died it was clear,  
No dog for us would ever be so dear**



**Marie Jose Temmink**