

NEWS RELEASE

National Western Stock Show  
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August 7, 2002

Ben R. Houston, Colorado cattle rancher and Chairman of the National Western Stock Show from 1992 to present, will be “hanged” on Nov. 17 in Louisville, Kentucky.

Houston will not be strung up, but rather receive the prestigious Saddle and Sirloin Portrait Award for 2002 from the Kentucky State Fair Board, and have his portrait placed on the wall of the Louisville Exhibition Center.

Fair Board President and CEO Harold Workman recently announced Houston’s selection to the historic portrait gallery. Houston will be honored and have his portrait unveiled at a banquet during the upcoming North American International Livestock Exposition in Louisville.

Since the Saddle and Sirloin was founded in 1903 at the Chicago Union StockYards, more than 340 industry leaders have been honored. The gallery collection of great contributors to the national livestock and meat industries was moved from Chicago to the West Hall of the Louisville Exhibition Center in 1977.

Houston’s portrait has been commissioned to artist Richard Halstead of Evanston, Ill.

Named Citizen of the West in 1995, Houston has been a long-time manager and owner of cattle ranches and in 1973 exhibited the Grand Champion Angus Bull and Grand Champion Charolais Bull and Female at the National Western. As a child, Houston showed cattle with his father at the National Western in 1938.

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A National Western director since 1972 and President from 1985 to 1991, Houston has numerous livestock achievements and awards to his credit and most recently was named to the American Angus Association Heritage Foundation.

Ben married Anita Lambert in 1950 and the Houstons have four children, Diane Hergert, Pam Miller and Scott and Skylar Houston, both active partners in the family's Aristocrat Angus ranch in Platteville, Colo.

Founded in 1965, Aristocrat Angus in 1992 was the first organization to ship live animals to the Ukraine and has since exported live cattle, semen and embryos to Mexico, Canada, Australia, Japan, Argentina and Costa Rica.

Reservations for the Saddle and Sirloin Award banquet at the Executive West in Louisville may be made by contacting Andrea at 303-297-1166.