

KATHLEEN LATZ

BACK BAY

Growing up, my family always had a dog. Before my parents split up and divorced in 1977, we had a Cairn Terrier named Bonnie. At some point during the time we owned Bonnie, I saw my first Westie and although it resembled Bonnie, I loved that little white dog. When I got married on April 26, 1981, I tormented my new husband for a Westie immediately, and bought my first Westie from the first litter bred by Dawn Martin. Petey was born on May 2, 1981 and I picked him up as soon as he was available. Later that year, I visited her at her shop to have him groomed and she told me that he was nice enough to show. I asked her what was involved with that and the rest is history. I bred my first litter in 1987 with a half sister of Petey named Sara, to a beautiful dog named Ch. Merryman of Purston, bred by the Rev. Michael Collings of Purston Kennels. My first litter of seven, six girls and one boy, produced my first homebred Champion and Specialty winner, Ch. Back Bay's Seventh Heaven, "Angel". She, in turn, was bred to another beautiful dog, BIS Ch. Windswept's Frederic, bred by Patricia Caswell, my dear friend who passed away in 1993 from melanoma. This breeding produced two males out of a litter of five that finished their Championships. One of them was Ch. Back Bay's Gust O' Windswept, "Gus", and the other was Ch. Back Bay's Sparkle of My Eye, "Sparky". Both of them were Specialty winners and Sparky has the unique distinction of being the oldest Westie to ever have finished his Championship at 10 1/2 years old. Gus was later used by Svea Pugh and produced two girls, one of which was Ch. Svea's Back Bay Beach Baby, "Ronnie". Ronnie was the dam of my beloved Jolie, GCh. Am. Can. Ch. Back Bay's Fleur de Lis, the only Westie bitch to have ever finished her Grand Championship with all her points coming from the Veterans class. She finished her Championship with all Specialty wins, was a group winner, group placer, won a Veteran BIS, an AOM at Eukanuba, and was the love of my life Westie. From the day she was six weeks old until the day before she died in my arms at age 11, she was my constant companion in my grooming shop and in my life. I still miss her. But, she lives on in her progeny and in her great grandson, LG,(GCh. Am. Can. Ch. Back Bay's Timeless Gust of Wind) who is the son of Ch. Back Bay's Gust O' Windswept, born from frozen semen in 2016 with the help of another dear friend, Cyndee Lockwood. At this writing, on the last day of April 2019, he has just finished his Grand Championship one month after gaining his American Championship, beautifully handled by Margery Good, my friend for many years who first told me about Ch. Merryman of Purston thirty-two years prior.

I have been blessed to have bred and or owned or co-owned 34 Westie Champions to date, six Grand Champions, one GCh. Silver, and one GCh. Bronze. I have had three ROM bitches and will have an ROMX bitch when her last progeny finishes his Championship this year. My "Rocky", Ch. Back Bay's Winsome Wednesday's Child was the winner of the Stud Dog class at the 2009 Centennial National Specialty show out of eight total stud dogs, something neither I, nor anyone else will likely ever see again in our lifetime, if ever at all. My LG is every breeding I have ever done incorporated into one beautiful dog. And I thank God for all of it.