

## Michaele Tristram & Bay Sterling+



### 2001 AERC Decade Team



*This photo is my favorite, taken by Charlie Barieau on the Derby Ditch 50 when Bay Sterling+ was about 9 or 10. –M.T.*

**Rider's name:** Michaele Tristram

**Horse's name:** Bay Sterling+, AERC #10401, AHA #0308294

**Year of First Endurance Ride:** 1991

**Region:** West

**Current rider lifetime endurance mileage:** 12,542

**Current LD mileage:** 265

**Tell us about your horse. When/how did you come to get him/her?** My mother gave him to me when he was 6.

**What is your horse's breeding?** Arabian

**Sex:** Gelding

**DOB:** 3/23/1984. He died at age 31 in September of 2015.

**Horse height:** 14.2 hands

**Approximate weight:** 800

**Color:** Bay

**Did you do endurance with any other horses before this horse?** Yes

**How many different horses have you ridden in this sport?** Many

**Do you participate in any other horse sports or activities?** Yes

**How many years have you been involved with endurance? With horses in general?** Endurance since 1980; horses all my life.

**How old was your horse when first started in endurance?** 7 years old.

**What mileage distance did you start with? (25, 50, etc.)** 50

**Describe the best ride you ever had on your horse.** All of them!

**What was your highest goal for your horse, and did you achieve it?** Legion of Honor; yes.

**What kinds of rides do you enjoy the most (50s, 100s, multidays, etc.)?** 100s

**In choosing your next horse, what would you look for?** The same horse.

I rode Bay Sterling+ from the time he was 4 years old. I trained him, I rode him in the mountains, deserts, packed him in a pack outfit. Packed into the Grand Canyon. He finished Virginia City 100 three times. Won several 50 mile rides. I rode him as a lead horse in pack outfits. I taught riding lessons on him. I was still riding him when he died at age 31, he was wearing shoes and had never been lame or sick in his life.