

Old Friends

Early Pioneer

1995 ch G, Rahy – Golden Darling (Slew O Gold)



Bred by John and Betty Mabee, Early Pioneer raced as a homebred before being claimed for \$62,500 by trainer Vladimir Cerin for owners David and Holly Wilson. He raced for the Wilsons from the ages of 3 to 8 and won his two best races for them. In 2002, as a 24-1 longshot, he pulled a memorable shocker, winning the Hollywood Gold Cup (G1) over favorite General Challenge. That year he also prevailed in the San Bernardino Handicap (G2). But the next year he became unfit for racing due to a tendon injury, and was retired with earnings of \$1,156,815, and besides his two major stakes wins, seconds in the Mervyn Leroy (G2), Californian (G2), Oakland H and Ernest Finley H, and a third in the Hill Rise H. As Daily Racing Form columnist Jay Hovdey put it, "he was supposed to have been retired for good, at a place in Arizona well known to owners Dave and Holly Wilson. But at some point something happened," and at fourteen years old Early Pioneer was sold for \$1,000 as part of a string of down-and-out horses to be raced on the western fair circuit—the absolute end of the line for an old race horse. But Nevada fair circuit horseman Sean Davis realized the old campaigner was in no condition to race, and he did the right thing. Through the assistance of Arizona's Second Call retirement program, Cass Dewey of Tucson, and her daughter Brandi Goode, Early Pioneer found a home at Old Friends, in the star company where he belongs. The sweet tempered son of Rahy now whiles away his carefree time with his paddock buddies, enjoying well-earned respect and ease.

If you would like a share in this horse, you may complete the form below. In return, you will receive an 8 ½ x 11 color photograph of Early Pioneer and a Share Certificate.

**Mail bottom of form and
check to:**

Old Friends
1841 Paynes Depot
Georgetown, KY 40324

Phone: 502-863-1775
Fax: 502-863-1776

www.oudfriendsequine.org

Name

Address

Phone

email

**I would like _____ share(s)
in Early Pioneer @ \$100 per
share.**

Enclosed is my check for

\$ _____

Please make your check (tax
deductible) payable to: **OLD
FRIENDS**