

Funquest Consuelo 16037

The Research of Marsha Valance, 2018



(photo © Jasinsky)

Funquest Consuelo 16037 (Funquest Falcon 12358 x Black Patch 09925) • Solid brown • **Foaled:** April 14, 1965, Topeka, Kansas
Died: May 8, 1992, Delano, Minnesota • **Bred by:** Stuart G. Hazard • Linebred Flyhawk 25 percent of his blood • 24 crosses to Ethan Allen 2nd; 20 crosses to Headlight Morgan; 14 crosses to General Gates • **Eight Generation Coefficient of Inbreeding:** 8.81843566894531 percent • **Registered Morgan progeny:** 57 colts, 66 fillies

Funquest Consuelo was purchased as a weanling by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Berzins of Summit Stables in Delano, Minnesota, who cherished him all his life. Their ability to campaign him permitted him to demonstrate his qualities as a breed ambassador. As a four-year-old, “Con” ended his show season with the 1969 Tri-State Champion Morgan English Pleasure, Co-Champion Morgan Western Pleasure Tri-State, and Open English Pleasure Champion Tri-State. In addition, he took the following North Central Morgan Association (NCMA) Championships: Open English Pleasure, Morgan English Pleasure, Open Western Pleasure, Aged Stallion at Halter, and Reserve Champion NCMA for Morgan Western Pleasure. In 1970, at his first show in March, he entered three classes and was pinned first in Open Halter, first in English Pleasure, and won the Men’s High-Point Pleasure Division trophy.

In 1975, on a trip to Oklahoma City, Con was Grand National Champion in Amateur Western Pleasure.

Peggy Carlson described Con in the January/February 1978 issue of *The Morgan Horse*: “Above all, he is a show horse; his quality defies description, and as a performance horse he knows few equals. The totally uninitiated show visitor will invariably pick ‘Con’ out of a class and watch him—instinct telling him he is watching a winner. And win he does, again and again. His show career wins would fill volumes. He has won a total of 21 Tri-State Horseman Association year-end championships, no small feat, considering Tri-State is the biggest US all-breed association. [Nine of these Tri-

State championships were in open classes.] He has brought home more than 300 first placings in both English and Western pleasure. This year [1977], as a 12-year-old, he won both the English and Western Stake classes and the English and Western Pleasure Championships at the NCMA North Central North Star Show.”

Funquest Consuelo was the first Morgan in Minnesota to earn an AMHA Bronze Medallion in the Show Division. Chuck and Arlene Berzins showed Con extensively all over Minnesota and the Upper Midwest in open shows in 1981, the inaugural year of the AMHA program, and the versatile, charismatic stallion earned over 60 points—twice the required number for a single Bronze Medallion! Con retired from showing in 1986 at the North Star Morgan Show, in a ceremony including a dressage performance that brought tears to the eyes of many hardened horsemen. Con sired numerous talented offspring, including Ironstone Copy, Ironstone Tiffany, Nord’s Configuration, Oak Hill Prelude, Summit’s Con Man, Summit’s First Lady, Summit’s Quest, and Summit’s Sweet Cider. All were what Joanne Curtis has termed “typical Funquests”—true athletes with sound feet and legs to go with it.

In a 1979 *TMH* article, Jackie Lindstrom summarized Con’s significance: “Besides being a versatile winner in the pleasure classes, this classy stallion has contributed to the growth of the Morgan breed by producing fine quality youngsters already following in his footsteps to the winner’s blue. His quiet good looks, his impeccable manners, and a disposition which belies the fact he is a stud can only add to the respect of those who know him.” ■