

## OBITUARY

### Major Robert J. Borg

**T**HREE-TIME U.S. OLYMPIC DRESSAGE competitor Major Robert J. Borg, USA (Ret.), of Oxford, MI, died April 5. He was 91.

The best-known protégé of 1932 U.S. Olympic dressage team and individual bronze medalist Capt. Hiram Tuttle, Borg followed his mentor into the Army and the U.S. Cavalry School at Fort Riley, KS. In 1943, Borg received his commission as a horsemanship instructor and trainer.

In 1948, at the London Olympics, Borg served as both the coach of two teams and a dressage competitor, helping the U.S. eventing team win gold and the U.S. dressage team win its only silver medal to date.

Borg continued in his coaching and riding roles at the 1952 Helsinki and the 1956 Stockholm Games, this time

competing aboard the Army mount Bill Biddle. Borg's student Walter Staley won individual eventing gold at the 1955 Pan American Games, where Borg himself won individual silver in dressage with Bill Biddle.

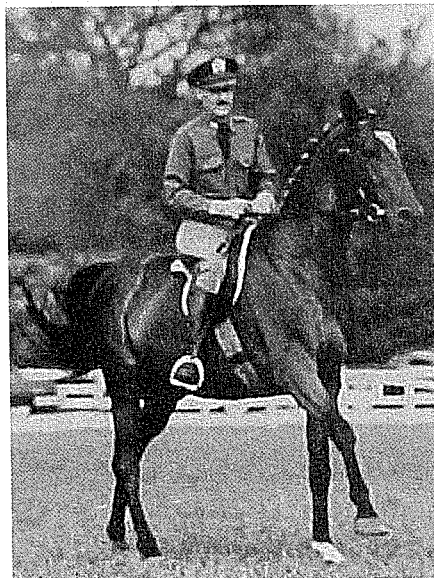
A riding accident at his Red Bob Farm in Oxford left Borg without the use of his legs. He fashioned a device he called a "round table" that enabled him to work horses in hand, and he went right on training horses and riders until he was in his eighties.

The United States Equestrian Federation (then the American Horse Shows Association) awarded Borg its Pegasus Medal of Honor in 1999.

Walter Staley and Frank Duffy, a member of the 1956 U.S. Olympic eventing team, eulogized Borg at his memorial service, held April 16 at Red Bob Farm.

Memorial contributions may be made to the U.S. Equestrian Team Foundation, P.O. Box 355, Gladstone, NJ 07934, [www.uset.org](http://www.uset.org); or to the Disabled American Veterans, P.O. Box 14301, Cincinnati, OH 45250-0301, [www.dav.org](http://www.dav.org).

— JENNIFER O. BRYANT



**OLYMPIC GLORY:** Maj. Borg aboard Klingsor, his mount for the 1948 London Games, where they won team silver

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