

Riderless Horse for National Veterans Day Parade 2023 Birmingham, Alabama

Narrative for the riderless horse as it passes by the Reviewing Stand:

Unit 106A: This year's Riderless Horse, Hank, is making his very first appearance. Hank is a retired Military Working Equine from The Old Guard, where he served at Arlington National Cemetery honoring our Nation's heroes, including the late General Colin Powell at his military funeral.

The tradition of the reversed boots comes from an ancient Greek custom, symbolizing this fallen Warrior will never ride again.

Hank is led by US Army Chief Warrant Officer 2 Ray Ezell, Alabama National Guard 145th Chemical Battalion.

Hank was adopted by Compassion Ranch in Central Alabama.

The Riderless Horse has been presented each year since 2006 by Patriotism In Action.

(After Hank passes)

The Riderless Horse is followed by US Army (Retired) Colonel Bob Barefield, Chair of Patriotism In Action and the Alabama Department American Legion 2023 Veteran of the Year. Hank is accompanied by Dr. David Dyson, Director of Compassion Ranch and Historian for National Veterans Day.

POC: Bob Barefield, Chairman, Patriotism In Action. Phone 205-305-9561.
Info about Hank Compassion Ranch: David Dyson. Phone 205-422-6484.