

This sense of duty to the wider sport is no less than the horsemen's community has come to expect. All his life he has absorbed the imperative of trying to improve the industry's future, just listening to the nightly debates of men like his own father, or his father-in-law Dinny Phipps, or their friend Watts Humphrey.

On the same basis, for instance, Farish laments the impact of swollen book sizes on diversity. He understands that all farms need to market new stallions, not least his own, but they are contesting a shrinking market. All the more pressure, then, to get things right.

"You're only ever as good as your last successful stallion, so you're always on the lookout," Farish says. "But the right opportunities don't always present themselves. It just depends on what's available, and what fits the criteria of pedigree, conformation. And you also have to be able to attract those stallions because there's plenty of competition out there."

No less than in their various services to the sport, father and son apply the same sense of legacy to their own farm. That's why they have such pride in a sire who has hauled back the Bold Ruler line to front and center of American pedigrees.

"That's all down to dad," Farish stresses. "It is amazing to see the influence of A.P. Indy. Year after year in the Classics, there have been so many of his sons or grandsons, and it just continues. He's doing really great, too, just living his life: same stall, same paddock, same number of fans coming by to see him. It's neat to have him there and it's going to be a big void when he's gone."

"Remember Seattle Slew really didn't have that many other top sons, but he was able to be the one. We're very hopeful Honor Code will be the next.

There's a lot left to be told there, but hopefully he could be. And yes, the whole bench is strong right now. We're very excited about what's coming along."



Shug McGaughey, Dinny Phipps and Will Farish at Saratoga in 1989 | Tony Leonard collection

[Share this story](#)



Multiple Grade 1 Winner
Midnight Lucky

MIDNIGHT LUTE

\$15,000 Stands & Nurses

**A PROVEN SIRE OF
TOP CLASS RUNNERS**

First 4 crops have
averaged over \$4,400,000
and over \$71,200 per runner

130 three-year-olds are
entering the Classic picture
this year



(859) 255-8290 • www.hillndalefarms.com
*A Top 10 2YO Sire by Stakes Performers and Winners