

I started flying pigeons at the age of 9. My father supported me from the beginning and shared my interest in this hobby. We started flying as father and son "Steve Naudé & Son". My track record of pigeon racing speaks for itself. I applied as Trainer for the Sun City Million Dollar Pigeon Race in 1995 because of my achievements and awards in the young bird racing. Ronnie Croxford and myself were then selected as trainers. Ronnie Croxford as head trainer and myself as the assistant trainer, because of my working commitment in the Department of Higher Education and Training, I could not do this on a full time basis in the beginning of the Race. Before we started the Million Dollar Pigeon Race at Sun City, Ronnie Croxford fell ill and never filled the position. After discussions with Zandy Meyer he then decided to put my father in as the head trainer. The recognition and award that I got from the FCI as being the trainer for the ABSA Olimpiade in 2001 for my contribution and dedication to the Pigeon Sport will be one of my greatest achievements ever. Another recognition was that of working with Pretoria University at Onderstepoort and Dr Hartman and his committee members. This has great meaning to me as I could also give a contribution in the research into Avian Influenza N1H11, and the susceptibility of it on pigeons. In the 24 years of being involved with the Million Dollar Pigeon Race, I was able to work closely with a lot of Veterinarians and contribute a lot to the Pigeon sport in South Africa. It was a great privilege to be able to work and share knowledge with them. The Sun City Million Dollar Pigeon Race gave me a platform and opportunity to meet some of the greatest pigeon fanciers in the world and being able to handle and also buy some of the best pigeons in the world. This made a much better pigeon fancier of me. For this I will always be grateful to the Million Dollar Pigeon Race for this opportunity they gave me. I am scaling down on the amount of pigeons I have as well as Club Racing. I will only keep a few pigeons to compete in One Loft Racing. I have come to a point in my life that I want to retire and feel like spending more time on fishing and getting away from the "Rat Race".

Yours in Pigeon Sport

Corrie Naudé