

Geroux, Florent: Born: July 16, 1986. From: Argentan (in Normandy), France.

Father, Dominique Geroux, was a jockey and trainer. Dominique passed away December 29, 2017 (after a fall on Christmas day). Florent was 13 when he entered a jockey school in his native France and at 17 began race riding. First Win: Chopyluz at Longchamp in 2004. He was the leading apprentice in France in 2005.

He moved to California in 2007 as an apprentice and exercised horses and rode a few runners for trainer Patrick Biancone. But Visa problems and two serious injuries forced him to leave. He went to Ireland and worked at Coolmore Stud for six months. His Visa problems were resolved, and he returned to the U.S. in 2008. Leading rider at Hawthorne in 2011. Second in the 2014 standings at Arlington, where he won three Grade 3 stakes on July 12 -- American Derby with Divine Oath; Stars and Stripes on The Pizza Man; and Modesty aboard I'm Already Sexy.

Found instant Breeders' Cup success in his first try, riding Work All Week to a 19-1 upset victory in the 2014 Sprint to capture his first career Grade 1. Came back in 2015 and in the Juvenile Fillies Turf, he guided Catch a Glimpse to a well-timed victory over highly regarded Irish invader Alice Springs, giving him a 2 for 2 record in the Breeders' Cup. A day later, at odds of 16-1, he overcame the outside post to win the Turf Sprint with Mongolian Saturday. Has made a successful transition from the Chicago circuit to Kentucky in 2015.

Career took off after that first Breeders' Cup win. The year before (2013) he had less than \$3 million in purse earnings for the year. 2016 nearly \$16 million going **into** the B. Cup.

Father, Dominique, came to many of his big races and there's no doubt he'll be missed by his son, Florent.

Family: wife Kasey Spindler, daughter of the late Chicago jockey Louis Spindler; two daughters Olivia and Celine.

Has passed the tests for U. S. Citizenship but still needs to take part in the swearing-in ceremony.