Day In A Life’s victory in the 1998 Meadowlands Pace rewarded co-owner Howard Schoor for a lifetime of dedication to the sport and also provided driver Luc Ouellette with his biggest career victory.

There was a three-way tie for the final qualifying spot after Real Artist, the 1997 Woodrow Wilson winner, was upset in his elimination and finished third, tying with Dex Appeal and New Jersey Classic winner Shady Character. Real Artist won the three-way shake, but drew post 10 and was never a factor in the Final.

The 3-2 favorite was two-year-old divisional champion Sealed N Delivered. The beaten favorite in the North America Cup seemed to be back in top form based on his 1:50.4 victory in a Pace elimination. But the night belonged to Ouellette and Day In A Life.

Ouellette gunned the Monte Gerlod/Duane Marfisi trained son of Life Sign right to the top and stole a middle half of 57.1 to put the race out of reach. It was Ouellette’s first million dollar victory and sparked him to a fantastic final month of the ‘98 meet, as he won a Breeders Crown, the Niatross, U.S. Pacing Championship, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Woodrow Wilson and Hambletonian Oaks.

Fit For Life, with driver George Brennan seeking his second Pace victory in three years, made a gallant late charge but fell a nose short. It marked the first time a sire [Life Sign] had his offspring finish one-two in the Pace Final. Ouellette, 32, and Brennan, 31, were the youngest ever one-two finishers in the Pace Final.

Owner R. Peter Heffering notched his second Pace victory [he won in 1991 with the stakes-record setting Precious Bunny] while co-owner Howard Schoor, the founder of Showplace Farm in Englishtown, New Jersey, earned the biggest win of his career.

“I'm so happy for Howard because he's been around 30 years and never had a good horse," trainer Monte Gelrod said.

“It’s wonderful. It’s unexplainable," Schoor said. "It’s a great thrill. This is what it’s all about."