

Sent: Saturday, January 17, 2015 11:14 PM **Subject:** Happy 20th Birthday, My Doogie

Today, my Pekingese angel, Doogie, turns 20 years old in Heaven. I can remember so clearly my husband telling me that he saw the most beautiful dog in the world, and I had to go see him. So off we went to the puppy store (yes, sad to say that was before I knew anything about the world of puppy mills and rescue). I like to think that in a remote way I did rescue Doogie from the puppy mill, but it was far from ideal in my current philosophy. Anyway, so back to Doogie! I agreed, he was the most beautiful dog in the world (minus the 2 we had at home, of course!). We left the store, and I started talking about how we were going to pay for Doogie, and when we could bring him home. You see, I had picked out his name years before he was born. I loved the show, Doogie Howser, MD, and one night while sitting at work in the Special Care Nursery, on a slow evening, my colleague helped me pick out names for my next dog. I was ready long before Jim, and obviously, long before "THE Doogie" came into the world. I don't believe in accidents so I'm sure that the timing for The Kahoras to get a new puppy was perfect! So now he had arrived on earth, and I was well prepared for his arrival. My husband, on the other hand, said he was "just showing him to me" Really?? "just showing him to me" - I think not. I sought out financing the next day. They told me that Doogie was not ready to leave the shop until that Wednesday, so after announcing to my husband that we were, in fact, getting another dog, I headed to Menlo Park Mall Wednesday afternoon to pick up my bundle of joy. Ironically, Jim became more attached to Doogie than he was to his siblings, Nikki (you all know who she was!!), and Danni. Doogie always stayed in the background, more by himself than with Nikki and Danni. I learned over the years that although Doogie liked humans, he was not too fond of other canines. Once Nikki and Danni had crossed to Rainbow Bridge, Doogie was very happy to be an "only" dog in the Kahora family. He spent the last 7 years of his life as the only child. That created an even greater bond with him, and made for his departure to Heaven a particularly painful one for both Jim and me. Those who have been with Friends of Nikki over the years may remember Doogie, and his quiet, but touching, presence at our meetings. Doog, you are still greatly missed every day. Although you helped send us two amazing Japanese Chin, you will always be our little Pekingese, and we will love you forever and a day.

Happy Birthday, Baby! Can't believe 20 years have gone by, yet the memories of you coming into my life feel like yesterday.

In honor of Doogie's birthday, please remember that special being(s) that touched your heart, and will continue to, 'til the end of time.

Warmly,
Donna

PS - Doogster's baby photo, and one from his last year with us. He finally grew into his Bozo ears (as Mommy lovingly called them)

