

From: friendsofnikki@comcast.net
Sent: Friday, May 7, 2010 2:57:38 AM
Subject: OUR PRECIOUS DOOGIE

Dear Friends and Family,

It comes with great sadness to tell you that our little Doogie was euthanized at 1:15AM @ Red Bank in Hillsborough. He has left to join his brothers, Danni and Ziggy, his sister, Nikki, and all his friends at Rainbow Bridge.

After a not so good week, and a very difficult day, we had to do what was best for him and let him go. His breathing became more labored so we took him to his vet in PA this evening. We had already made the decision after his hospitalization last October that he would never again be put through testing, and never be taken from me for any procedure. That was a promise to him I would not break. I was fortunate to have both his vets supportive of that decision. We decided to try a dose or 2 of lasix to remove the fluid that was heard in his lungs upon exam tonight. He also was given a tranquilizer to calm his stressful state. After several hours of observing him and watching his condition worsen, the decision became clear. He gave us so much for so long and we had to give him this final gift of love.

As many of you know every minute of my day revolved around him. I don't know what my life is going to be like without him. I made him another promise tonight on the way to the hospital, that I will honor his life in some way for the rest of mine. His impact on me and many others who knew him was powerful. He was my everything, and I'd be foolish to think this road would be easy. I do know that I will get through the darkness, and that I am a better person for having such a special being in my life. His spirit will be with me for eternity. My strong faith in God comforts me that he is in a place that's better than being with me (that was hard to convince Doog of). His presence at Friends of Nikki will be missed, I know, but he will be there in spirit, trust me on that one. His Daddy had a tough time tonight, as Doogie was his little man out of our threesome. I'm glad we could both be with him as he crossed. Despite his struggle for breath, he found the strength to kiss us both goodbye. He will be greatly missed.

Thank you all for your supportive e-mails and phone calls over the past year since his liver tumor was diagnosed, through all the ups and downs. I thank my friends and family who learned to work within a 3 hour window of time for any social activities. Doogie thanks you for letting him monopolize his Mommy's time. I wouldn't trade a minute of it.

I needed to write this tonight but I am now totally exhausted. I pray that sleep will come. Tomorrow reality will truly set in as I struggle to find my way in this world without my Doogie.

Thank you,
Donna, Jim and "Angel" Doogie