

6-1-2011

Dear Golden Gate Lab Rescue

In 2001 your organization helped save a beautiful yellow lab named Zoe. While living with her first family, she had torn through her acruciate ligament in her hind leg. The family was forced to ^{possibly} put her down, You stepped up to the plate and paid for her surgery and I brought her home for her recovery. Three months later I tried to return her to her family, but they insisted we keep her for we had fallen in love with her and had a much bigger yard for Zoe, a 22 acre horse farm.

We had a Jack Russell named Thatcher and they were fast friends. He would race around Zoe in circles and she would flip from side to side on her back. He would leap onto her chest, and bite her jowls growling and she would hold him with her front paws hugging him rolling back and forth with glee. They cuddled together as they slept and were always side by side.

When Thatcher lost his eyesight and had to have his eye removed, Zoe became his "seeing eye dog" and he followed her everywhere to get around. When the day came to put old Thatcher to sleep, Zoe layed on his bed for three days looking for her friend and companion waiting for his return. We got a new Jack Russell Ruby and then a Border collie, Colbatt and another Jack Russell, Dixie all from rescue. Zoe was the leader of all of them.

Our crew lives on our horse farm in Pomona CA. Zoe enjoyed many years of going on trail rides and swimming in ponds and streams

until her old legs wouldn't let her go that far. She greeted everyone that came to our barn and was loved by everyone. She even slept on her bed in the tackroom and would no longer come up to the house, for the horses were her charge and she would never leave them unattended. She chased away many coyote and barked and kept strangers at bay. All 90 lbs of her!

All children adored Zoe as she would lay on her side and allow them to crawl all over her to receive pets and cuddles. She was the most loyal, loving dog that I have ever owned. I never feared for any child that wanted to play with her.

This past month, Zoe turned 13 yrs old. Her legs were so wobbly and she spent most of her days sleeping in the sun. Our vet had her on daily Rymadal which made her more comfortable. As a family we have decided to put her to rest and bury her here on our farm next to Thatcher where I know they will meet again in heaven. We will all miss her terribly.

What an amazing organization you are, saving so many dogs and finding homes for them. I commend your work and hopefully in a little time, we will come to you to adopt our next lab. Keep sending your newsletters, they always make me smile and sometimes cry.

Please accept our donation in honor of Zoe, the most beautiful yellow lab that touched so many lives. Thank you, Anne & Andrew Branaugh

Columba's Zoe Beauty
April 5, 1999 - June 2011