### **GOLDEN HEARTBEATS**

**JULY, 2020** 



A PUBLICATION OF GOLDHEART GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE, INC. P.O. BOX 394 CHESTER, MD 21619 PHONE: 410-877-9697 WEBSITE: WWW.GOLDHEART.ORG

## **A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Happy Summer Everyone. I certainly hope everyone in our GoldHeart family has managed to stay healthy and keep their pets healthy as well.

It certainly has been a challenging couple of months. All of the fundraising events have been cancelled which means donations are down. I would like to thank everyone who is always there for GoldHeart and the pups in our time of need.

Right now we have the Steak Box Grilling Raffle that is mentioned in the newsletter. Hopefully we can raise quite a bit of money with that going on. This is a great raffle and the steaks from this butcher are great. Please go to the website or our Face Book page to find out more or e-mail for me tickets at president@goldheart.org

Once again many of our GoldHeart families have had to help their furry kids over the Rainbow Bridge and our hearts and prayers go out to these families.

I would like to thank all of those folks who were on the front lines and even on the side lines of this devastating Covid. Whether you are hospital workers, store clerks, cleaning personnel or just going out and getting groceries for an elderly neighbor. We thank you. Stay well everyone and hopefully the next couple of months will get better.

Barbara Schaefer President GoldHeart

# GOLDHEART GRILLING SAMPLER RAFFLE



Drawing August 28, 2020, with delivery guaranteed in time for Labor Day Weekend 2020. Here's three options to secure your ticket(s):

- 1. In person from our GoldHeart President, Barb Schaefer.
- 2. Mail in your check with your delivery address by August 17th, payable to GoldHeart, to PO Box 394, Chester, MD 21619, and include your email address so we can confirm your entry.
- 3. At the GoldHeart website using our Donate button to pay with a credit card or by Paypal. Go to <a href="http://www.goldheart.org/about-goldheart/make-a-donation/">http://www.goldheart.org/about-goldheart/make-a-donation/</a>. During the payment process, be sure to tell us what it is for (i.e., *two chances to win the Meat*), and be sure to share/include your address for prize delivery.

For options 2. and 3. above, our President will email a confirmation to you that the applicable number of tickets have been entered in the drawing for you. Sorry, but with in-person delivery required, participation is limited to members and friends in the <u>GoldHeart Service Area</u>. The raffle prize is coming from <u>http://www.warringtonfarmmeats.com/</u>

#### THANK YOU for Supporting Goldheart!

GoldHeart is an all volunteer, non-profit 501(c)3 organization dedicated to the rescue of unwanted Golden Retrievers

### HAPPY 20<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY AUGIE





#### Augie

The oldest known Golden Retriever is still living and recently celebrated her 20<sup>th</sup> Birthday! Augie was born April 24, 2000, and after being re-homed twice (due to no fault of her own), landed with Jennifer and Steve Hetterscheidt of Oakland, TN. Jennifer and Steve, who were active in their local golden retriever rescue organization when they got Augie, adopted her when she was 14 years old. Augie reminds us that age is only a number, and that there is nothing as special as Old Gold. Congratulations Augie!

Yes, this is an anomaly, but with better diets, exercise, and routine veterinary care, Goldens are routinely living from 12 to 14 years of age and many well beyond that. One recent GoldHeart rescue #830, Teddy, passed his 17<sup>th</sup> birthday after coming to GoldHeart at age 12.

## **NEED YOUR HELP!**



#### Hi Everyone,

Meet Wrigley GH# 1159. Wrigley is almost 9 weeks old and was surrendered by his family to GoldHeart.

Upon taking Wrigley to their vet for some issues he was having they were certainly in no way prepared for what the vets found. This little guy is having peeing issues and it was found that at this young age he had Struvite Crystals in his urine, he had an elevated PH count in his urine, he also had some large rod shaped bacteria in his urine. Wrigley also has an abnormal opening of the penis that is causing issues and will need surgery to correct things. The

abnormal opening has caused discolorations and scalding of the skin on his belly. Later he will need a Urachal Diverticulum Repair which will most likely be done when he is neutered. Right now he has an undecended testicle but that may drop by the time he is neutered. If not that will require a more extensive surgery to search for that little bugger.

The family contacted the breeder and if he was returned he would be put down so she allowed his family to do what they thought best. This lead his family to GoldHeart. The board voted to bring this little boy in even knowing that it is going to be a hit to us financially. We want to do what is absolutely best for Wrigley so we will get him the surgeries he needs to prepare him for a forever home. If you can donate towards Wrigley's surgeries please send your donations to GoldHeart P.O.Box 394 Chester Md 21619. Your donations are tax deductible. Thank you





## **USEFUL INFORMATION TO HAVE...**

My kids and I went through a pretty scary situation a few weeks ago. Our beloved dog, Ruby, swiped a chocolate bar off the table when my daughter wasn't looking and ate the whole thing, wrapper and all. After a very expensive trip to the vet, she's doing fine, but it was a terrifying ordeal thinking we might lose her (Ruby is a small dog, and it was dark chocolate, which contains a lot of caffeine).

The experience really got me thinking that our family needs to take a lot more precautions when it comes to pet-poisoning prevention. I've been researching the steps we need to take to be more careful, and since this is a topic important to you and your readers, I thought I'd send you a list of resources you may like to share somewhere on your website:

What To Do If Your Pet Swallows Poison

How to Poison Proof Every Room of Your Home

Pet Poison Guide: Garage and Laundry Dangers

40+ Foods That Are Poisonous or Unhealthy for Dogs and Cats

A-Z List of Poisonous House Plants for Cats and Dogs

How to Find Cleaning Products Without Pet Poisons

#### Are Your Pet's Toys Toxic?

I hope you can find a way to use these, because they really could help prevent a tragedy. I think they'd be a great fit on a petsafety resources page. I'd also be happy to write a free article for your blog on pet safety to help readers avoid going through what we did with Ruby.

## **CROSSING OVER THE RAINBOW BRIDGE**



On June 30, 2020 Heaven gained an angel. Rudy crossed the rainbow bridge peacefully at home . We have broken hearts and no words. We are devastated. Run and swim pain free my sweet boy....Diane Davis

RUDY (GH 747)

It has taken me a while to write this down and has even been harder with everything that has happened with the pandemic - it's caused us to only miss her more.

Suki (was Daisy) came to us, sight unseen, as a beautiful, energetic, gentle, playful, smart, and incredibly sweet 8 year old foster. We knew almost immediately that she was going to be one of the family. Her greatest loves were tennis balls, pizza bones, snuggling, and keeping track of her people. She came with us almost everywhere we went, including trips to NJ to see her 2 and 4 legged cousins.

She was a clever girl. If you stopped playing ball with her, she would push the ball under the fence into the neighbors yard. She would then bark until you fetched it for her!

She was a playful girl - no amount of snow was too large or too small for her to jump in, roll around, or dig into.

She was a caring girl. Anytime the kids would rough house with each other, she would place herself between them to "break them up".





She was a tolerant girl. She let one of her people pait her nails and dress her up in costumes. She never fussed or squirmed and never moved until her nails were dry.

She was the best girl. We can't image a better companion. We miss her terribly but are grateful for the 6 years we got to spend with her

Theresa, Justin, Rebecca, and Ethan....Suki's family.



DRAKE (GH 793)

**Drake, aka Drake the Cake**, was a large golden who weighed over 100 lbs. of solid muscle. We fostered him starting on 8/13/12 and adopted him on 11/14/12. Drake had a very large squarish head and would remind you a little bit of a Rottweiler but was a pure golden. Drake was quite chill and wasn't bothered by anything. His favorite thing was going to the Belair bakery on Saturday mornings with his dad to have a bagel. He would lay in the front passenger seat and put his legs over his dad's lap as his drove.

We don't know how old Drake was when he died on 1/4/2020 because he was given up to Goldheart by a homeless man. But we like to think he was at least 12.

RIP Dearest Drake the Cake - You are Forever in our Hearts...The Heil Family

**Gunner, aka Gunner the Runner,** was a shining example of what a golden should look like according to the dog care people who cared for our pups. Gunner's start was at a puppy mill and was bought and probably mistreated. He was given up to Goldheart because he peed in the house. We adopted him on 6/6/13, and it took several years for him to become "normal." Gunner loved to roughhouse with our other goldens and did so frequently. His favorite thing was to have his back rubbed.

After a year, Gunner started to have seizures every so often but not often enough to have him on seizure meds. Gunner was a young dog - only 7 - when he died suddenly on 10/14/19. He ate dinner that night, and we found him later that evening after he died. According to our vet, he expects that Gunner died from a stroke possibly during a seizure.

RIP Dearest Gunner the Runner - You are Forever in our Hearts...The Heil Family



GUNNER (GH 832)



**TUCKER (GH 772)** 

**Tucker, aka Tucker Trolley** came to us as foster on 4/16/12, as very dignified 5-year-old. We loved him so much that we had to adopt him and did so on 6/17/12. Tucker always trotted rather than ran to get in our house. While our other Goldens would be ready to chomp on the food in their bowls, Tucker was willing to wait until told to eat, and then would do so at a slow pace. Tucker always seemed to be at a "higher" level of learning - perhaps a master's or doctorate degree of dogdom compared to our other Goldens.

Unfortunately, Tucker developed cancer and had his spleen removed when he was  $10-\frac{1}{2}$ . We were told it was month to month since it appeared that the cancer spread. But Tucker wasn't going to let a little bit of cancer stop him. He stayed with us well over a year. He was a month shy of 12 when he died.

RIP Dearest Tucker Trolley - You are Forever in our Hearts...The Heil Family

Sami came to us in 2011. She was 5 or 6 years old at the time. She immediately won our hearts. She endured her new furry sister, who was but one year old at the time, with grace and patience. She played, shared toys, and taught her everything a growing girl needed to know about protecting the home and taking care of humans. She was our Princess. She was the boss... of all of us. She never stopped loving life and her family. She will live in our hearts forever.

I am so grateful to GoldHeart for giving us the opportunity to love Sami and have her for our family. She was so special and we are better for having had her in our lives....*The Flanders Family* 



SAMI (GH 750)



This is absolutely the best! We don't know who replied, but there is a beautiful soul working in the dead letter department who understands LOVE. Our 14-year-old dog Abbey died last month.

The day after she passed away my 4-year-old daughter Meredith was crying and talking about how much she missed Abbey. She asked if we could write a letter to God so that when Abbey got to heaven, God would recognize her. I told her that I thought that we could, so she dictated these words:

Dear God,

*Will you please take care of my dog? Abbey died yesterday and is with you in heaven.* 

I miss her very much. I'm happy that you let me have her as my dog even though she got sick. I hope you will play with her. She likes to swim and play with balls.

I am sending a picture of her so when you see her you will know that she is my dog.

I really miss her.

Love, Meredith



We put the letter in an envelope with a picture of Abbey & Meredith, addressed it to GoD/Heaven. We put our return address on it. Meredith pasted several stamps on the front of the envelope because she said it would take lots of stamps to get the letter all the way to heaven. That afternoon she dropped it into the letter box at the post office.

A few days later, she asked if God had gotten the letter yet. I told her that I thought he had.

Yesterday, there was a package wrapped in gold paper on our front porcH addressed, 'To Meredith' in an unfamiliar hand. Meredith opened it. Inside was a book by Mr. Rogers called, 'When a Pet Dies.' Taped to the inside front cover was the letter we had written to God in its opened envelope. On the opposite page was the picture of Abbey & Meredith and this note:

#### **Dear Meredith:**

Abbey arrived safely in heaven. Having the picture was a big help and I recognized her right away. Abbey isn't sick anymore. Her spirit is here with me just like it stays in your heart. Abbey loved being your dog. Since we don't need our bodies in heaven, I don't have any pockets to keep your picture in so I'm sending it back to you in this little book for you to keep and have something to remember Abbey by. Thank you for the beautiful letter and thank your mother for helping you write it and sending it to me. What a wonderful mother you have. I picked her especially for you. I send my blessings every day and remember that I love you very much. By the way, I'm easy to find. I am wherever there is love.

#### Love, God



## Friends Of GoldHeart



Big Fish Entertainment 717-979-7278 www.bigfishkaraokedj@comcast.net Scooper Hero - 3114 Royston Avenue - Baltimore, MD 21214 410-319-6630 or 1-877-319-6630 contact@scooperhero.com

Mt. Airy Veterinary Associates - 6 East Ridgeville Blvd - Mt. Airy, MD 21771 - 301-829-4099

Moe's Bar and Grill - 4709 Gettysburg Rd. - Mechanicsburg, PA

Shiloh Veterinary Clinic - 100 Morgan Lane - York, PA

Healing Hands Animal Hospital - 727 East Main St - Salisbury, MD 21804

Rossmoyne Animal Emergency Trauma Center - 4930 Ritter Rd, Suite 101 - Mechanicsburg, PA 717-796-2334

<u>Churchville Vet.com</u> - Churchville Veterinary Clinic - Greenbrier Veterinary Clinic - Swan Creek

Canine Spa - Dillsburg - Facebook: www.facebook.com/caninespadillsburg

<u>Dirty Dog Makeover</u> - Annette Melhorn - Mobile Grooming www.canaltownelabs.com - Kristin Wade

Everyone at GoldHeart Golden Retriever Rescue, Inc. would like to thank you for your continuing support and generous contributions to our organization. We could not survive without them.



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