



**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

**Good Bye summer, hello fall. For me summer went by too quickly and fall came too quickly.**

A lot has been going on with GoldHeart. We have already rescued over 50 dogs this year. A lot of medical expenses came along with these dogs. We will most likely reach the \$60,000 mark in medical expenses this year. I would like to thank everyone who donated when the plea went out for funds to help all the heartworm positive dogs and little Isabella who is still in foster care waiting for a decision as to whether she will lose that leg.

The 2024 calendars are out and I would like to thank the volunteers who put that beautiful calendar together for all their hard work. During our Giving Thanks for Goldens Campaign running October 1 to December 31, 2023 any donation of \$100 will receive a complimentary calendar. They are also available from our supplier. They are available in 3 different sizes. You can go to our website under the heading of Products to see what is available. The calendars are beautiful and you can hang them somewhere that you can get that golden fix every day.

### Meet Our Long Term Fosters

We still have two Long Term Fosters who are doing very well. Sofie, GH# 987, came into the rescue at 4 months old, and was diagnosed with Cerebellar Hypoplasia. Sofie had very expensive surgery to save her life. Although Sofie was never able to walk on her own she does wonderful in her wheelchair and takes about a 1 mile walk a day depending on the weather. She will be 9 years old in December. We also have Kirby, GH#1185, who has been in Long Term Foster Care since July 2021. He came into the rescue at about 10 weeks old after being diagnosed with a grade 3 heart murmur and Tricuspid Valve Dysplasia. He was given a life expectancy of about a year. He has just turned 2 and the specialists are now giving him hopefully up to 7 years. He is closely monitored by the heart specialist. We thank his foster mom for taking such good care of him. GoldHeart is responsible for all of Sofie and Kirby's medical bills for as long as they live. You can donate to the Long Term Fosters, and remember, any donation of \$100 gets you a complimentary 2024 calendar.

### Pet Expo 2024

We are once again signed up for the Pet Expo in Timonium at the fairgrounds. The dates are Jan 26, 27 and 28. This is always a great time and fundraiser for us. Last year we picked up a few new foster homes. It takes a lot of volunteers to run this event so any help you can give us would be greatly appreciated. Even 2 hours of your time will be a tremendous help. This event gives us the opportunity to meet new members, past adopters that we haven't seen for a while and foster dogs that we haven't seen for a while. Please consider lending a hand. I will be sending out a plea sometime in December. Thank you to all those who have helped in the past.

As always, our hearts go out to the GoldHeart family members who have lost their four-legged family members. We have all known that pain and know how bad it hurts. Many hugs to all of you.

Thank you GoldHeart family for all you do for the unwanted, lost and abandoned goldens that come our way.

Barbara Schaefer, President  
GoldHeart

# 2024 Calendars – Available Now!

Order your 2024 Calendars and enjoy 12 months of Pure Love and show your support for the Rescue all year long.

During our Giving Thanks for Golden Campaign, running October 1 thru December 31, 2023, all donations \$100 or more will be mailed a complimentary 8 ½ X 11 Calendar –

<https://goldheart.org/donation/>

Our 2024 Calendars are available for direct order from our Supplier: [createphotocalendars.com](https://createphotocalendars.com) with three sizes (and pdf version) available. All profits support our foster dogs. Thank you for your order and supporting Goldheart.



## UPCOMING EVENTS



JANUARY 26, 27, & 28 - 2024  
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT [GOLDHEART.ORG](https://goldheart.org)



# LONG TERM FOSTERS

## KIRBY GH-1185 – LTF



**January 14, 2022** – Kirby had an appointment today with the CVCA (Cardiology) specialists in Towson, MD and his foster mom has some exciting and good news to report: *“They have extended his life expectancy from 1-3 years to 1-7 years which was a pleasant surprise! He is a very good boy and I look forward to having him with me longer than expected! Thank you for trusting me to take care of him and I will continue to give him the best life possible. We will go back in 6 months for follow up!”*

**October 2021** — We wanted to share some new pictures of adorable Kirby from his foster mom – he sure is growing fast. First at 11 weeks snuggled with a foster sibling, then at 13 weeks, followed with 16 weeks and 17 weeks! He is doing great and while his heart condition slows him down ... you can see he is loving life and is so thankful GoldHeart gave him a chance!

**BACKGROUND — Meet adorable Kirby**, born June 6, 2021. The family surrendering him to GoldHeart, got him from a breeder, and they took him to a vet shortly thereafter, and a grade 3 heart murmur was detected. They next took Kirby to a cardiologist specialist, and sadly he was diagnosed with tricuspid valve dysplasia (TVD). The cardiologist indicated it would get worse as he got bigger and the future was bleak. Due to the unexpected expenses and emotional toll dealing with a puppy with this diagnosis, the family turned to GoldHeart, wanting the quality of his short life to be the best possible. GoldHeart welcomed him into our Long Term Foster program, and he is landing in an experienced and loving foster home, where he can live a laid back lifestyle where his playtime and health will be closely monitored, for whatever time he has with us. No doubt he will know what it is like to be loved and we will do our best to share pictures of his progress here and on Facebook!

The TVD is a rare condition and Kirby's case is severe and he also has pericardial effusion (buildup of extra fluid in the space around the heart). This makes him a much more severe case. Life expectancy is 1 to 3 years maybe.

In addition to routine care expenses, Kirby, will require daily multiple heart medications and periodic visits to the cardiologist specialists for testing (e.g., Echocardiogram -heart ultrasound).

Donations to support Kirby's care and the Long Term Foster Program will be greatly appreciated. Please click on the donate button — Thank you!

**December 15, 2021 – Happy 6th Birthday Sofie!** Good Morning Everyone. Today is Nuggie's 6th birthday. Never thought we would see this day. She was definitely a challenge when she came to GH. She is certainly one of our more expensive pups and I thank you all (GH Board and generous donors) for allowing us to get her surgery and save her life. She has been a joy and is a happy pup.

We sure love her and what a great representative of GH she is!—Barb and Bill

May 2017: Sofie has been with her foster family for over a year, and while we have seen a lot of changes in her, it is apparent she will need a dedicated home to care and work with

her every day. She had life saving surgery back in August of 2016, and is now able to sit up and little. Hopefully you have seen many of the heartwarming videos and updates at our [Facebook Group](#) her Foster Mom posts (also one video is posted below).



**SOPHIE GH-987**

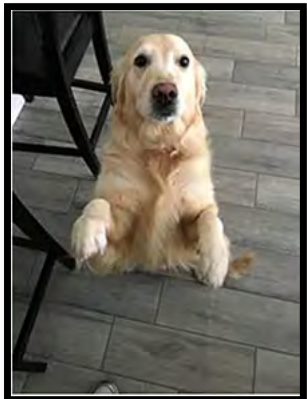
walk a  
that

Watching her determination is an inspiration to all. No question that Sofie has a zest for life and loves everything and everybody. Sofie couldn't be happier that she was voted to become a Long Term Foster by the GoldHeart Board. Miss November 2017 (calendar), has gotten her wish, a forever family to love and adore her for years to come with the Schaefer's including two loving fur-siblings, Sophie and Tucker. The Schaefer's and her GoldHeart Family are committed to Sofie for the rest of her life and love her in spite of her medical issues. Fan mail for Sofie can be sent to her Foster Mom at [president@goldheart.org](mailto:president@goldheart.org).

Donations to support her care and the Long Term Foster Program will be greatly appreciated. Please click on the donate button — Thank you!

# CROSSING OVER THE RAINBOW BRIDGE

## MISSY GH1027

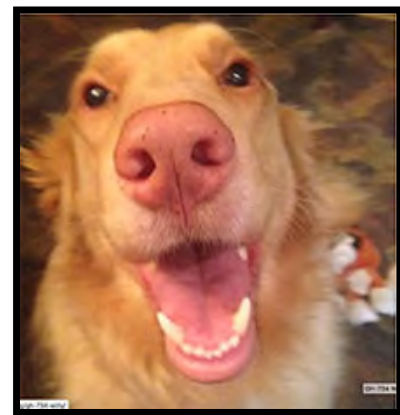


It is with a very heavy heart that I create this post...Our beautiful Golden Retriever, Missy, who we've had for the past 5 years has passed away from cancer. It came on very fast and was very aggressive. We are completely devastated and our hearts are completely broken. She was the sweetest, most gentle soul I've ever known. She was my Egyptian Princess (a rescue from Egypt) and I called her my "Missy Doodles" and my "Princess". We held her in our arms as she crossed over the Rainbow Bridge. We are crying for you here on earth, my beautiful girl...but know that we will see each other again on the other side. I love you with all my heart and soul and I miss you more than words can describe. Rest in Peace my Angel.....*Michelle Murlin*

I can't believe that I am writing about the loss of our precious girl. From the day we met her...she was deeply locked in our hearts. We never did actually know how old she was. Different vets told us between 3 and 5 when we got her. But as she got older and slowed down a bit...we knew the day would come. We never expected it to arrive so quickly. One day she's sniffing every plant and stone while on our walks...and the next day we find out she's got cancer covering her lungs and it's untreatable. Making that decision is never easy, but this time it really hit home. Michelle adored that

pup, as did I, and it was so hard to say goodbye. We had all our neighbors over for one last hug. You see, she was the darling of the neighborhood. More people knew her name than ours...and they were all so sad to hear about her situation. She was truly loved. As I type this, I'm crying again. She was truly our Egyptian Princess and will always be missed. No matter what...no other dog will replace you in our hearts. Lay in the sun Missy. When you're on your walk in Heaven, stop at God's garage and when you see Him, do the "bunny rabbit." I'm sure He'll have a treat in His pocket.....*Mark Preston*

Willy Bucci, aka Willy Nelson, Willy Dog, Bill, our wonderful golden retriever we adopted from Goldheart in 2011 passed over the rainbow bridge on Sunday, July 23, 2023. Willy was a joy to everyone he met. We were blessed to have him as part of our family for twelve years, and he is already very missed. He was truly one of a kind! When I saw his picture on the GH website, I knew we had to have him. He was an albino, as all of his skin was pink and he had the biggest, most wonderful pink nose! He was so perfectly imperfect I knew he would fit right into our family. He is survived by his human parents and three human brothers who are all heartbroken. Thank you to GH for finding Willy for us.....*The Bucci Family*



**WILLY GH-734**

## BELLA GH-866



We feel very blessed that Bella GH866 was part of our family for 8 very special years, with her sweet & loving nature, her silliness, energy, friendliness, gentleness & enthusiasm. And she was a beauty, we got compliments wherever we went.

She & I had a very special rapport, I miss her presence enormously. A classic 'Velcro' Golden, she was the 'support dog' that I didn't know I needed.

Thank you Goldheart for bringing her to us....*Caroline Turner and Family*

Baby Bea was born on 2/6/23. She was from a litter of 8 puppies. Her mom lived in horrible conditions in a hoarding/breeding situation in North Carolina and was brought into GoldHeart on 1/27/23. From the time she was born she was the smallest of the litter and was not eating well. Mom kept nudging her away. The foster home pulled Baby Bea from the mom and started to bottle feed and she was starting to thrive. She had to be taken to the ER one night where she was diagnosed with Bronchial inflammation. With meds and regular bottle feedings she seemed to be doing ok. A few days later she started to spiral downward and after another trip to the ER she was diagnosed with an enlarged heart that was also malformed, fluid around the heart and lungs. At this particular time the Vets and the foster home consulted with GoldHeart and the foster home decided it was time to let her go. On 2/12/23 Baby Bea crossed over the Rainbow Bridge.



**BABY BEA GH-1235**

We want to thank her foster family for doing everything they could for this precious little soul. I know your hearts were broken when you make that decision but you knew what was best for her. She was loved very much and never had the chance to grow up and grow old with a loving family but her foster loved her and took good care of her and the Family and Friends of GoldHeart constantly said their prayers for Bea but it was out of our hands.

Play hard at the Rainbow Bridge Baby Bea...until we all meet again.



**CUDDLES GH-896** family and loved by everyone she met.

Our sweet lovable Cuddles (GH#896) received her Angel Wings here at home as we held her and she ever so gently and peacefully crossed the Rainbow Bridge on March 18, 2022, after many months of dealing with several cancer tumors, surgeries and treatments.

Cuddles was an abused 4 year old, who along with her son Goofus (GH#897), a 2 year old, when we rescued them in 2014, both extremely afraid of everything and everyone!! Slowly, with lots of TLC, patience and an abundance of petting and treats, they both overcame most fears and became wonderful fur members of our family. They never lost their fears of being in a car, a leash, going up or down stairs, or getting into water (pool, bathtub, creek, etc). However, eventually they adapted. Cuddles overcame a terrible early life to become a beloved member of our

Cuddles loved her tennis balls, had many and finally learned to retrieve them when thrown –most times, until she grew tired of the game and kept them. Cuddles loved chasing and “treeing” squirrels when they dared to enter HER yard, and enjoyed cuddling on the couch with whomever was available.

We truly believe that Goofus, Rammie, Nugget, Mumphe, and even our cats Meow and Scamper were there waiting to welcome her as she crossed the Rainbow Bridge.

We miss her but are all thankful that Cuddles and Goofus came into and enriched our lives.

**RIP Shadow** – This beautiful boy was truly one of life’s great gifts and it is easy to see how everyone who knew him loved him almost immediately. Shadow was born 10-28-2008, and was adopted in April 2010, and from that date forward, he never had another bad day, enjoying a glorious 12 years as Shadow McCusker.

We are heartbroken to tell you that the golden retriever we adopted from Goldheart 12 years ago this week, crossed over the rainbow bridge this morning (April 6). Shadow lived to be 13.5 years old and was without a doubt the most loving dog we ever knew. He was the sweetest, happiest dog and truly had a heart of gold. He was beloved by everyone who knew him. We are grateful to Goldheart for rescuing him and trusting him to our care. Here are a few pictures of our big, beautiful boy. Thank you for the important work your organization does on behalf of these abandoned animals, they are such a gift to their humans.

With gratitude and sadness....Rachel and Patrick McCusker



**SHADOW GH-641**



**PUMPKIN GH-996**

I didn't know it would be our last trip to the park, where you loved to run and roll in the grass. I remember seeing you take your first step on grass. You were six years old, frightened, quivering, and the stench, oh my! I was to be your foster. You came to Goldheart as a retired breeder without records, only the name Rachel, which I changed to Pumpkin. You were "shutdown", according to an evaluator; unsocialized with unpredictable potential. And then there were the ear polyps. I adopted you anyway.

It took months, but nothing could have been more rewarding than to see each change: coat from rough and dull to a soft, shiny red; eyes from fearful to loving. Your behavior became that of a real Golden when you started running to greet

people, tail wagging, rather than running from them, tail tucked.

I miss your companionship and how you followed me everywhere. I miss your big eyes looking into mine, your snout moving my hand away from some task, meaning..."hey, lets go". And I miss your paw touching my hand to say "scratch my chest". How many months will I expect you to be waiting at the door for me when I arrive home?

You lost your ability to walk, your spine a mess, arthritis everywhere. Although you were a trooper in trying the promising remedies, quality of life deteriorated. Long ago you gave me your trust. I hope I used it wisely in letting you go today. Now you are pain free. You walk, run, roll in the grass at the Rainbow Bridge. When I am with you again, I will scratch your chest just the way you like. Wait for me....*Your Forever Mom, Beverly Clevidence*

On May 12, 2021, Darby Bell 14 1/2, Good Canine Citizen, captain of the "Forever Friday" pontoon, Goldheart calendar model, senior advisor to the Bell household and most importantly treasured family member of Rick, Kathryn and Finnegan Bell crossed over the rainbow bridge. We are sure his older brother, Seamus (GH 593) was there to meet him with a tennis ball and a wagging tail.

Darby came to the Bell family shortly before his 5<sup>th</sup> birthday when his loving give up family could no longer take care of him. Darby helped to conduct 15 home visits for Goldheart and participated in numerous fund-raising events over the years. Darby had a fan following of family, neighbors, friends, customers, and staff alike at Bass Pro and Cabela's. He could often be found posing for photos in the front of the large stone fireplace or waiting for treats at checkout.

Ever the patient and gentle leader Darby helped to train the 2017 addition the Bell family, Finnegan, in the fine arts of tug-of-war, wrestling, and chasing tennis balls in the yard. When

not in Maryland Darby loved his rides to his lake home, often delighting other motorists with his goofy smile as he looked out the window. He found fish in the lake to be fascinating creatures, and if his dad jumped in the water, then Darby was sure to follow.

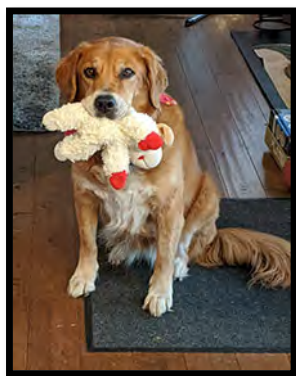
As he aged his favorite activity was to lay in front of the fire and snuggle with anyone watching a movie.

While we are so sad to have lost our beloved Darby, we know he had a wonderful life. We were so blessed to have him for 9 ½ years, and cherish all the memories of our smart, loving, and loyal boy.

Forever loved and missed,

Kathryn, Rick, and furry brother Finnegan

**DARBY GH-748**

**RAINEY GH-722**

With very heavy hearts...our Rainey girl crossed the Rainbow Bridge on 8/30/2022. We adopted her on 6/29/12, when she was 2-years old. We drove three hours to meet her and it was love at first sight! When she jumped in our car to leave it was like she knew she was going home! Her foster mom, Jill, who had her for almost one year, sent her home with a Jolly Ball that Rainey just loved to play with!

She had such a pretty face...many people commented on her mascara eyes. Rainey didn't care where we went, as long as we were together. We moved twice and she easily settled into her new homes. She peacefully laid in the front yard and watched the movers load the moving van.

Rainey loved going for walks, riding in the car, rolling on her back in the grass and running in her backyard. She also loved going to Rita's during their "dog days" and getting her ice cream. She was a

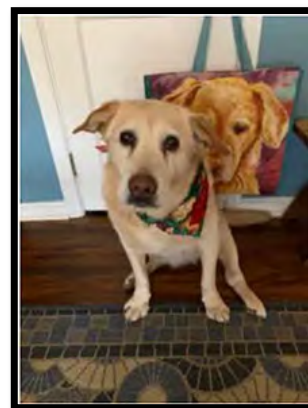
"thunder" dog. The only time she would get on the furniture was during a storm when she would seek comfort. She actually knew a storm was coming before we did!

The last year was a little rough...she lost her sight and her hind legs started to get weak but she never gave up.

We truly miss our Rainey girl and we thank GoldHeart for the opportunity to have Rainey in our lives!.....Janis and Kevin Woolsey

We had to say goodbye to our Goldie Girl earlier this week (April 4, 2022). Her Vets estimated that she was between 14 – 15 years old, and we loved every minute she had with us for 4 years and 6 months. We can also now relay her back-story, since she is now running pain free with the pack of friends she made while with us.

Goldie came to us from living a life in an outdoor homeless camp, was used for panhandling, and was also loved by all that met her. A good Samaritan checked on her often, took her food, and when her owner landed in jail, she took Goldie in. We were contacted to see if we could help Goldie permanently get off the streets. While not a golden, we feel in love with her kind, gentle (except when taking treats...she learned to wait for humans to put on floor -good girl!) and yes, an almost human personality. We later learned she was a mix of lab, chow, boxer and more. Goldie loved to bark (a lot). It was her way to communicate with everyone. Since she was under "witness protection" she became known as GG at Goldheart, and was a loved sibling of many other rescues that came in over the past years. For our Teddy's 17<sup>th</sup> Birthday (October 2017), he woofed and said, please let her stay, so we happily adopted her. She was the smartest dog ever, had a huge human vocabulary, and just knew what you wanted. She was such an easy dog to love and care for, always letting the "pet-me" goldens in the house be the center of attention. Her happy time was being with humans, especially among our many friends, at any gathering, even at the vets, where she could join in the laughter with her barks!

**GOLDIE GIRL  
GH-1048**

She had severe arthritis and probably had Cushing's Disease when she arrived, but it was not diagnosed until Spring 2019, and we then started all the testing and treatments. Her coat grew in (the chow shed-fest began) and she was never more beautiful than she was on her last day. It just broke our hearts that her body was giving into old age and Cushing's. We assisted her with ramps and yoga mats throughout the house and she sported a red harness that let us help her get her up. Just recently she started having repeat urinary infections, accidents (no big deal), but then she could no longer stand or walk. Despite our best efforts, and many different meds, adequan shots and supplements, we knew her time with us would soon need to end. As much as we wanted her to stay with us, and those big soulful eyes said I want to stay too, when her ability to bark often pretty much stopped, we knew. Our heart aches to hear her woof! woof! Mom where are you, bring me to sit by you!

Goldie was quite the amazing lady – always a good sport and tolerant sister of many other rescued Goldens, Teddy, Brittany, Fosters Belle and Oliver, Long Term Fosters Smiley and Gunner, and Jay Bird (all, except Oliver, were waiting to greet her at the Rainbow Bridge). Goldie left behind her latest buddy, 5-year-old Dasher – who arrived last October and seemed to recharge Goldie, and help mend our hearts after losing Gunner and Jay Bird back-to-back. We were so lucky Goldie was with us another 6 months.

RIP our sweetest Goldie Girl – you will live on forever in our hearts.....Marie, Pete and Dasher Martinez

**MAX GH-718****With the heaviest of hearts...**

I adopted Max in June 2011. Per the contract with GoldHeart, I am informing you Max no longer lives with us because at 12:30 pm yesterday afternoon, he went to sleep and crossed the Rainbow Bridge at Shore's Animal Hospital in Harrisburg. This warm, loving, and loyal soul was trapped in a body that had been slowly failing him over the past two weeks or so. Yesterday morning, his breathing worsened and he had no energy to stand or walk lengthy distances.

I assure you, he was surrounded by his human pack – gently wiggling the tip of his tail and gave me the look to say “it was ok Dad”. I took off his collar and he fell asleep quietly with his tennis ball between his chin and paw. He is now happy and safe – free to run and chase his ball.

His love for his humans and tennis balls was unconditional. He learned quickly to understand B-A-L-L or Bravo Alpha Lima Lima. No matter how much love we gave him, he returned it tenfold.

You could never love him more. By the way, he does countersurf (loves Tombstone Pizza), did crate like a champ (but didn't really need to), and socialized with others (ok, maybe sharing tennis balls was conditional upon his approval only). Max mentored our newest golden. Eventually, conceding a tennis ball from time to time. He was affectionately known as “Big Brown Dog” to his human friends (believe me, he was infamous in the fire and EMS community here in Harrisburg) and his brothers, Bandit (Baby Brown Dog) and Turbo (Little Brown Dog).

I wanted to thank you and GoldHeart for allowing my family to opportunity to love him so very much. He has truly been a blessing to us. I have included some photos, to share with other potential adoptive families for you to share with regards to the successes of your program. Thank you again!....Mike Kraska





# FRIENDS OF GOLDHEART

**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

**Churchville Vet.com** – Churchville Veterinary Clinic – Greenbrier Veterinary Clinic – Swan Creek

**Canine Spa – Dillsburg** – Facebook: [www.facebook.com/caninespadillsburg](http://www.facebook.com/caninespadillsburg)

**Dirty Dog Makeover** – Annette Melhorn – Mobile Grooming  
[www.canaltownelabs.com](http://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.



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

