The names and location in this story have been changed to protect the family’s privacy.

Wayne, his wife Mary, and their 12-year-old son, Josh, had had enough. After 18 months of promises, it was time for their 28-year-old nephew, Cal, to move out. The busy family of three had supported him, his 15-month-old toddler, and Cal’s very sweet 3-year-old pitbull long enough. Both his freelancing and the treatment of his dog caused mounting tension in the household.

In spite of the tender name for her, it was apparent that Baby Girl was nothing more than a possession to Cal. He rarely gave the dog any attention and cared little for her safety and well-being. Baby Girl had no vaccinations because Cal said “she don’t need them” and she wasn’t spayed. Worse, he let the dog roam wherever she wanted to go and she had no outside shelter.

Although Wayne and Mary lived in the country, they had about two acres that had invisible fencing for their beagle. They never let their
dog roam loose in the country or in the national forest. The risk of injury, rabies, or death was too great.

Cal had no such concerns for his dog. Wayne offered to let Baby Girl stay in their yard with the invisible fencing. All Cal had to do was buy the collar, but he refused. Wayne knew there wasn’t much he could do legally for the timid and sweet pitbull, but he decided to do what he could to keep her safe.

As much as it pained him, he tethered her for her protection. Wayne also provided her with a dog house. For 18 months, the family fed, watered, and gave Baby Girl attention. Even Toby, their beagle, visited her. A playful companion, she loved Toby’s company. Their son, Josh, especially began to form a bond with the sweet dog. He would spend time with her, rubbing her ears, cuddling with her, and telling Baby Girl what a good dog she was.

Occasionally, Cal would stop by and pat the dog, but that was the most attention he showed her. It was heartbreaking to watch as Baby Girl strained against her chain, tail wagging, while Toby romped and played in his protected yard. Instead, she spent her days and nights outside, chained.

Between the issue of Cal’s dog and his lack of interest in finding another place to live, tension between Cal and Wayne’s family continued to grow. Finally on Labor Day, it escalated into a verbal confrontation. Wayne told his nephew he had to move out. Then Cal’s estranged partner got a restraining order against him and subsequently picked up their toddler.

As Cal and a friend stood in the yard, he muttered something about getting his dog. Cal’s friend told him there wasn’t room for the dog in his car. Wayne saw his opening and took it.

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Mosby’s Mission

The Mosby Foundation is organized exclusively for charitable purposes, to assist in the care of critically sick, injured, abused and neglected dogs through financial support and public education. We are a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

The Mosby Foundation

Mark Twain once said, “The dog is a gentleman; I hope to go to his Heaven, not man’s.” In reading our cover story of unimaginable cruelty perpetrated on a defenseless dog, it is easy to share Twain’s sentiments. Thankfully, our second story provides balance, where people are doing everything in their power to help a dog in great need. We take heart in the fact that in both instances, dog lovers stepped forward, intervened and helped save these dogs’ lives.

Their willingness to become involved in both instances provided the impetus. The financial support of our donors and grantors supplied the means. If you ever question whether your donations make a difference, please read the stories here and be reassured. Dogs’ lives are saved because of you. We ask that you continue supporting the work of Mosby Foundation in any amount. We also encourage your vigilance and intervention in assisting helpless dogs. Together, we all can make a difference.

In support of canines,
David Fitt
President

Gimme Shelter
We are helping so many dogs, we do not have space to list them all!

Autumn - Bay City MI
Autumn is a ten year old Golden Retriever diagnosed with cellulitis of the tail and initially treated with medication. Unfortunately, the tail became necrotic and amputation was recommended. Autumn was in considerable pain after surgery but is responding well, soaking up a lot of love and attention as she makes full recovery.

Miley - Waynesboro VA
Miley is a seven year old Lab mix who is the service dog for an autistic boy. When Miley was diagnosed with a tumor on her leg, getting her surgery was a top priority, but the family could not afford it. Thanks to The Mosby Foundation, not only did Miley get her tumor removed, but she also had a split tooth removed. She came through her surgery with flying colors, and is now on her way to recovery.
Love By Any Other Name

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Don’t worry about Baby Girl, Cal. We’ll take care of her.”

That’s when Cal snapped. Wayne heard his son screaming, ‘Dad! Dad! Look! Look what he’s doing to her!’ What he saw made his blood run cold. His nephed stood over his very sweet and timid dog. With one hand holding her head, Cal took a dull knife in his other hand and cut the dog’s throat.

Wayne rushed at Cal, but the man had lost all reason. He was about to make a second cut, but Wayne restrained him. Cal began to rant, “You’re going to have to put a bullet in her head now. I didn’t finish her off.”

In a dog’s world, emotions aren’t terribly complicated. Love, fear, excitement, they all have their place. But betrayal? A dog has no understanding of such a complicated act. Bleeding and trembling, Baby Girl retreated to her dog house for safety.

Immediately, Wayne called the police, then rushed to Baby Girl’s dog house. All he could see was her chain and a trail of blood. He finally coaxed the dog out of the house and quickly examined the wound. There was not a lot of blood but the dog’s wind pipe was exposed.

Wayne released Baby Girl from her chain and took her to a secure area of their house. Then he called the emergency veterinary clinic in his area and described what had happened. The clinic could not give them an estimate of what it would cost to treat Baby Girl, and a payment plan was out of the question.

Wayne told them he could not afford to bring the dog to them, so the clinic talked him through how to wrap the wound, which he did. They also told him what signs to look for to safely monitor her condition. Because Wayne had grown up on a farm and had cared for animals all his life, he knew that Baby Girl was not in any immediate danger. With the guidance of the clinic, he felt he could wait until the next day to find a vet that would work with him.

Hourly throughout the night, Wayne monitored Baby Girl’s condition. He and Josh changed the dressing several times and did their best to keep her comfortable. The next day, Wayne called several vets seeking help, but the answer was always the same. Payment was expected at the time of service.

Finally, Mary’s co-worker suggested The Mosby Foundation. Neither Mary nor Wayne had heard of this Foundation but they were desperate. By this time, it was afternoon when Wayne called our office and spoke with Dreama. She listened as Wayne related the events of the past day. As Wayne later said, “She was a rock when I needed it. A huge burden was lifted. I’m just glad she was there to talk to me and work with us.”

While The Mosby Foundation isn’t generally equipped to deal with emergency situations, we very much wanted to help this family and Baby Girl. We found a spay/neuter clinic near Wayne’s residence that would care for Baby Girl’s wound. They also agreed to work out a payment plan with them.

To say that Wayne was thrilled was an understatement. The clinic worked them in and attended to Baby Girl’s wound that same day. Upon examination, the clinic found that the knife had missed her main artery by just millimeters. Baby Girl had to have three layers of stitches, with the top layer consisting of 13 staples. A drainage tube was inserted and she went home with her new family the next day.

To their surprise, The Mosby Foundation had paid a generous portion of the bill. “I can’t say enough about The Mosby Foundation,” Wayne gushed. “I’ve told everybody!” We were just glad to be able to offer a helping hand to this man who had saved the dog’s life. Baby Girl and this family certainly deserved it.

In the meantime, Cal was arrested on charges of animal cruelty. Wayne went to court and testified against his nephew, telling the judge that The Mosby Foundation was instrumental in getting Baby Girl the medical attention she needed.

The judge ultimately convicted Cal of animal cruelty, ordering a sixty-day sentence. Once released, he will be on two years’ supervised probation. He isn’t allowed to have any companion animals.

Cal must also submit to a psychological evaluation and attend anger management classes. A restraining order that Wayne’s family filed against Cal was extended for two years, with the state awarding custody of the pitbull to Wayne and Mary. As you can imagine, the entire family was relieved. They did not want to relinquish the dog to anyone else. “I can’t split the dog and my son up,” Wayne said. “They are so close.”

Baby Girl’s days as a chained, neglected dog are behind her. Now she spends her days and nights with her forever family, who love and cherish her. She and their beagle, Toby, spend their days romping and playing together. The family is in awe of Baby Girl’s recovery. “She’s just remarkable,” Wayne said.

We’re thrilled that Baby Girl finally has the life and the love she so richly deserves. We only wish that the human heart could be as uncluttered and forgiving as our canine companions. Wouldn’t the world be a different place?
Gimme Shelter
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Kizzy - New Orleans, LA
Kizzy was born to a fighting-dog breeder, but didn’t have the temperament to fight, so she was dumped at a cafe. She was taken home by a young man who loved her, but never cared for her properly. Kizzy ran away and was hit by a car, which broke her leg at the hip. Untreated, her leg withered, and she developed a severe limp. Kizzy was rehomed and finally given vet care. The Mosby Foundation helped pay for a surgical procedure, and soon she will be pain free and able to use her back right leg again!

Mr. Biggs - Grayson GA
Mr. Biggs, a 2 year old American Bulldog, was put out of his home to run loose. Picked up as a stray, his microchip was read and his family contacted. Sadly, his former mom said that she set Mr. Biggs loose rather than see him continue in their current abusive home situation. Mr. Biggs was quickly adopted but then found to have heartworms. He is currently undergoing treatment and is expected to make a full recovery.

Zeke - Portland OR
Zeke is a 10 year old Golden Retriever who had a mass on his right front paw. We are happy to report that Zeke had surgery, thanks to The Mosby Foundation, and the mass was not malignant. He did have a toe removed, but he is recovering well and is already walking better than expected. He’s really doing great, but he HATES the E-collar!

Angel - Fairmont WVA
Angel is a 9 year old Maltese who had several growing mammary tumors, causing difficulty with urination and bowel movements. In addition, neither Angel nor her two sisters were spayed. Thanks to The Mosby Foundation, Angel had surgery to remove her tumors, & she and her sisters were spayed.

Digame - Phoenix AZ
Digame is an 11 year old SharPei mix diagnosed with a mast cell tumor on his inner left thigh. Thanks to a grant from the Petco Foundation and Blue Buffalo we were able to help Digame and many other dogs fight cancer. At first it was thought amputation would be necessary but treatment reduced the swelling and the mass was removed safely with surgery. Digame is recovering at home with his grateful family.

Ginger - Waynesboro VA
Ginger is an 8 year old Dachshund whose dad said that her adoption fee was “the best $50 he ever spent.” Ginger was diagnosed with gallstones and her family couldn’t afford the surgery, so they turned to The Mosby Foundation. On admission to the hospital, Ginger was so ill that the vet said she only had a few days left to live. Ginger’s surgery was a success, and she will be able to give her disabled parents many more years of love and companionship.

Fiasco - Georgetown TX
Fiasco is a 7 year old Mastiff/Pit Bull mix diagnosed with a tumor of the right mandible (lower jaw). Fiasco’s dad was able to afford the surgery, but needed help with chemotherapy. We were happy to be able to help, and Fiasco received his first chemo treatment in early November. He tolerated the treatment well with minimal side effects, and we wish him total remission of the cancer.

Simba - Palmdale CA
Simba is a 3 year old male shiba inu mix who was found as a stray three years ago. Simba had a broken tooth that was causing her pain and discomfort. Simba’s family had a fire that destroyed their home and they were living in a hotel, unable to afford the care that Simba needed. The Mosby Foundation and Red Rover combined forces and were able to finance his tooth removal.

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Gimme Shelter
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**Tara - Bradenton FL**
Tara was diagnosed with a cardiac chemodectoma, which is a rare benign tumor that can grow large enough to stop the heart from beating. Her dad, who is blind, researched and found that this type of tumor responds well to a form of radiation that is very precise. Tara only needed three treatments, but this type of radiation was only available in NC. Tara and her Dad traveled from FL to NC where she received the treatment she needed.

**Maggie - Frederick MD**
Maggie is a 19 month old Labrador Retriever whose mom is a disabled Air Force veteran. Maggie was diagnosed with Lymphoma and needed the 22 week CHOP Protocol. When told of The Mosby Foundation grant to help Maggie, her mom broke down in tears in the grocery store. Thanks to our generous partners at Petco and Blue Buffalo, Maggie is currently getting the treatment she needs in order to go into remission.

**Troublez - Beaverton OR**
Troublez is a 12 year old Mini Schnauzer who is genetically predisposed to periodontal disease. She only had eight teeth, but four needed to be removed. The infected teeth, besides impacting Troublez’ quality of life, could be dangerous to her heart because she has a murmur. Troublez’ mom is disabled and depends on Troublez to be her comfort dog. Our Foundation helped with the extractions.

**Hook - Las Vegas NV**
Hook is a four year old Chihuahua that was adopted from the Animal Foundation of Las Vegas. Hook’s mom was able to afford the $30 adoption fee but the other requirement for adoption was that Hook must have his teeth cleaned within 30 days of adoption. Thanks to our generous donors, Hook will be flashing his pearly whites during the holiday season.

**Koda - Memphis TN**
A 2 year old Siberian Husky, Koda was running loose for two months before his new family decided that he needed to live with them. During his first vet visit they discovered that Koda was heartworm positive. He received the first of two heartworm treatments but his owners could not afford the second Injection. With help from The Mosby Foundation, Koda will receive his next treatment.

**Lulu - Jacksonville OR**
Lulu was adopted from the Southern Oregon Humane Society and was recently diagnosed with a corneal dermoid cyst, which is a mass in the eye causing irritation. If left untreated can cause blindness. The treatment for this condition is a keratectomy to remove the abnormal corneal tissue. Lulu received her treatment and is seeing the world clearly through eyes that are no longer iritated.

**Max - Bronx NY**
Max was diagnosed with multicentric lymphoma and needed chemo. His mom couldn’t afford the treatments and feared that the only alternative was euthanasia, but there was no way she was going to let her companion, friend and a member of her family go without a fight. She found a temporary solution to pay for a few treatments. She then turned to The Mosby Foundation for help. Thanks to the Petco Foundation and Blue Buffalo providing us with a canine cancer treatment grant, Max is now undergoing chemo and expected to make a full recovery.

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**Special Thanks to:**

**PETCO FOUNDATION**

for their generous grant to help us help so many dogs in need of critical medical care.

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When Jack was first diagnosed with cancer things looked grim and he was given only a month to live. Because of loving people like you he is happily hiking, playing and living life to its fullest. I just wanted you to know that you have made a huge difference in our lives, because Jack is still with us and is doing great!

Linda, Todd and Jack DiNobile
Durango, CO

Hi!!! Wow!!!! Thank you so much, dearly!!! I am in tears and am absolutely so grateful beyond belief! Thank you! If I can come help your organization in any way, other than monetary of course, please let me know. I would be honored!!!! Thank you!! I will keep you updated on how Simba is doing. I know I will have my spunky baby back again and I can't thank you enough!

God bless you,
Jacqueline Miller
Palmdale, CA

You know what’s so cool? In almost every article you write about in Mosby’s Mission is the dog’s will to live! No matter how bad their lives have been they never want to give up. All they want is a little help and loving. You guys are great!!

Michael Reday & sidekick....Midnight
Mount Crawford, VA

The news for Beau is outstanding and unprecedented! Last week was a whirlwind! We arrived in Gainesville on Tuesday for Beau’s pre-op appointment and met with the Cardio team to discuss the procedure, expected outcomes and Beau’s pre-surgery exam. Wednesday morning, the day of Beau’s surgery, seemed to come too quickly, as we knew the seriousness of the procedure, but knew it was the only option to reduce Beau’s gradient pressure in his heart and to remove the very small ridge of growth that was causing his Aortic Stenosis and save his life! They took Beau back to the Cardio lab, as he was the second in line for surgery that morning. After a three hour wait, the nurse assisting Beau pre and post op care came to get us. She said that Dr. Estrada wanted to speak with us, but it was not bad news! When we met with Dr. Estrada, she explained to us that the drug therapy treatment, that just 3 weeks earlier that they started Beau on to prepare him for surgery, had had a remarkable effect on Beau’s gradient pressure, lowering it a staggering 80 points! Beau’s gradient pressure in his heart at his first exam was deadly 176! The gradient pressure should be zero! Dr. Estrada said that never in her practice had she seen a patient where drug therapy treatment had lowered the gradient pressure more than 10-20 points and yet Beau’s came down 80 points! Because Beau is responding miraculously to the medication, Dr. Estrada canceled his surgery for now and has marked his case, ‘surgery pending’! Dr. Estrada has continued the drug therapy treatment in order to manage his condition for the moment and to see if he will continue to respond with the hope that his pressure will drop even lower. Beau will revisit the Cardiologist in December for a recheck and I am hoping and praying that his response to drug therapy treatment will continue to be the answer for him. Thank you for all you and the Mosby Foundation have done for Beau! I pray that the medication will be a lasting solution for his life threatening disease!

Sincerely,
Gabrielle Pine
Eastpoint, FL

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Mosby’s Mail
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Thank you so much, and extend my gratitude to the rest of the staff at The Mosby Foundation for what you are doing for my Tara. She has meant a lot to me ever since she was 12 weeks old. She is truly the shining star in my life. With my three daughters grown and on their own, Tara is all this blind guy has in his life. We are looking forward to getting her treatment underway. And getting her on the road to recovery. Anything I can ever do to promote the foundation, I would do without hesitation.

Sincerely,
Jerry Salem
Bradenton, FL

I am writing to inform you of Kaiya’s progress post surgery. Kaiya was diagnosed with Adrenal Cancer. This also caused Cushing’s Disease, involving some hair loss, bulging of her stomach, sloping of her back due to muscle weakness, and overall lethargy. We watched the side effects of Cushing’s rapidly deteriorate Kaiya. As a 9 year old shepherd mix, we were not prepared for dealing with cancer this early on! Thanks to help from The Mosby Foundation, we were able to have surgery to remove the tumor. The surgeon performed minimally invasive surgery and within 7 days Kaiya was bounding through the snow and playing with other dogs once again! She is currently sporting a half-shaved body, and has been getting compliments from passers-by when we go for walks! Maybe it will be the new fashion statement for dogs...)

We are now tapering steroids, and are keeping a close eye on her recovery. We are thankful everyday that we were able to afford surgery for Kaiya. And we would not have been able to do it without your help.

Thank you so much,
Priya, Matt, and Kaiya
Seattle, WA

Dear Mosby Foundation,
I’m sending this on my parents behalf. We’d like to thank you for your donation to Donnie & Dora Fisher, toward Ginger’s surgery. I can’t express our gratitude enough. She is back home recovering & doing well. I helped them with a few names and numbers to apply for help, and you guys were the only ones to come through. I got the shock of seeing what was inside that poor little 15 lb. dog today, and I’m still in shock! I don’t know how she survived. The vet said she was down to only a few days left, but thanks to you, she’ll be here years to give my disabled parents joy and companionship! You all rock. I can’t express enough what this meant or how grateful we are. Your foundation is a true blessing and in a time where its sometimes difficult to see the good in the world, The Mosby Foundation did shine!! You certainly saved this dog’s life, and years of grieving by my parents. I’d like to know what people can do to help you keep helping others like this, and I’m certainly gonna spread the word for others to donate to you, as you all are certainly as deserving of an organization as any, and a real class act. Thank you so much; it means more than you can imagine!

Stacy Pittington
Waynesboro, VA

Oh! THANK YOU SO MUCH!! What a great birthday present for me! (happy tears)

I have to schedule the appointment first. I could not do that until I had all the funds. You don’t know what this means for us! She has had such a hard time.

Donna Geary,
Yucca Valley, VA

Surgery was rough for Ducky. I cannot thank you, and your organization enough for the help you have provided! His incision site has healed nicely. Once again, thank you so, much for what you did for me, and for what the Mosby Foundation does for pet owners like myself.

Eve How & Ducky
Ypsilanti, MI

Fiasco goes for his second chemo treatment. He is doing very well and is the highlight of my life.

The chemo makes him sick for a few days but that is to be expected.

I want to thank the Mosby Foundation, Blue Buffalo and the Petco Foundation again for your donation to my efforts to save Fiasco’s life.

Alex Baldwin
Georgetown, TX

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We are so happy to report that Zeke had surgery and is recovering well. The mass that was removed was described by Dr. Haughen as a “cottage cheesy, puddingly” texture, and was not malignant. YAY! His toe was removed but he is already walking better than I expected. He’s really doing great, except he HATES the Elizabethan collar of course. He is seeing the doctor today to have his wound checked & his bandage removed/changed. Deep heart felt thanks to you and all at the Mosby Foundation for your help in making this possible. I can’t tell you how much it means to my husband and I, as well as a few family members who love Zeke almost as much as we do.

Gratefully yours,
Madalyn and Terry Martin
Portland, OR

Thank you and the Mosby Foundation for your donation to my baby Max and for allowing him to give me months or years of unconditional love, by helping me with this donation.

Again, there are not words to express my thanks to you and your foundation and as I promised to St. Francis who is the protector of all animals, “That who ever helped me even with a $20 donation, I will be always in debt and find a way to pay forward such kindness to my beloved Max.”

Kenia Veras-Gonzalez
Bronx, NY

I wanted to let you know, I lost Ella to bloat. I miss her so badly. She went every where with me. It was 2 am and I heard her make a horrible throat noise. She was throwing up and acting like I had never seen before. I rushed her to the ER vet. Surgery was performed, but her stomach had twisted and half of it was dead up to her esophagus. I did not want to let her go, but for her sake I had to. I want to thank Mosby for helping me give her a new lease on life, last year, which she enjoyed to the fullest. Bless all of you for what you do. She was a beautiful girl. Inside and out.

Wanda Stover
Bethlehem, Georgia

Belle is doing great! Belle’s periodontal disease was so extensive that she needed many more teeth extracted than the 1-4 they originally estimated. She has only 4 teeth left. She didn’t have any bad reactions to the procedure and she wanted to eat when she got home. She is much more awake, alert and barking more often. She wants to guard the house when anyone walks by on the sidewalk. She had not felt like doing much of anything before the procedure. Now, she can give me kisses without her breath killing me. Thanks so much, for the help of your wonderful organization.

Susan Henderson
Bettendorf, IA

Thank you for the generous donation, I can’t express how grateful we are. I am very optimistic and looking forward to a long happy life with my beautiful girls, Coconut and Breeze. Thanks for all that you do for all the loved animals in the world.

Stacy Shippe, Coconut and Breeze
 Ft. Lauderdale, Fl.

Last year your foundation gave us a grant to help my sweet Cosmo! He was diagnosed with Lymphoma. We had 9 great months together post-diagnosis! But… I’m afraid I have some sad news; Cosmo has passed away. The cancer was causing him so much pain, he had stopped eating. I couldn’t put my boy through any more pain. We’re all sad, but we’re also happy we got an extra 9 months with him. Thank you so much for accepting our application and giving us financial assistance when we desperately needed it. Cosmo was and still is very important to me. Thanks again, and keep doing what you’re doing.

Melissa Albino
Burlington, KY

I most definitely want to thank people for their donations, but would also like to drive home the point that even small donations, like $10, makes a difference. For us, I don’t know where the funds came from, but in today’s economy, I just have to assume that the grant we received from Mosby probably came from many sources, not just one. The thing is, when you have it, it doesn’t seem like much - when you don’t it’s the extreme opposite. So with that, I was hoping to write something that may encourage people that can donate, even small amounts, to do so. Many, many thanks.

Jeanne & Emma
Nunnelly, TN

It has been two months since Boomer’s surgery and I am pleased to say he is doing great. He is a different dog now that he isn’t in pain all the time. He is so out going and happy. Thank you for all you’ve done. You saved Boomer’s life and he gives you a big doggie lick!

Barry Hurd
Temecula, CA

Words don’t seem adequate. Troublez is home resting on my lap. Bless all of you. We are forever grateful. They removed several teeth and a tumor from the top of her head. I know God’s hand was throughout all of this, especially having all of you at The Mosby Foundation and her donor angels!! Bless all of you!

Hugs, Troublez & Thea Carr
Beaverton, OR
Beau’s New Frontier

Eastpoint, FL

died if they had waited any longer for treatment.

With good veterinary care and the family’s loving attention, Beau bounced back and began to act his age, a spunky, happy puppy. But again, at two months of age, Beau contracted mange. With extended treatment, he finally recovered.

Just as Beau was transitioning into a healthy life surrounded by people who loved him, Gabrielle, her mother, and two of her sisters were all struggling with a transition of their own. Gabrielle’s mother had been the director of a non-profit literacy foundation. But after 25 years, it closed due to lack of funding. Gabrielle is a nurse who cannot find work and recently took a job as a cashier.

None of these women, however, have let their financial situation defeat them. Gabrielle, her mother, and two of her sisters, did some research. They found that medical coding and billing were a promising career path.

If their community could not provide them with the income and career opportunity they wanted, so be it. They would create their own! The four of them enrolled in the medical billing and coding course at their local community college. Later, all four would graduate with honors.

During this time, Grace, their youngest sister, 13, who also has Down Syndrome, needed hip reconstructive surgery. “It was a very challenging time,” Gabrielle told us. “And Beau was an important part of Grace’s recovery.”

Bed ridden following her surgery, Beau stayed right by her side. Once Grace was back on her feet, so was Beau. The two were inseparable. “Thick as thieves,” as Gabrielle laughingly told us. Although the family never left Grace unsupervised, it seemed that Beau knew intuitively that Grace needed a protector. He always stayed close to her.

Outside, Grace loved to throw Beau’s toys while her family watched. To everyone’s amusement, Beau would retrieve the toys, then sit down and chew on them. Grace would laugh and throw her arms around him. Beau was always gentle with Grace. With everyone else in the family, he acted like a puppy, jumping, tugging and playfully nipping. With Grace he was always the gentle protector.

But in August, her best friend had a sudden and steep decline in his health. Beau could no longer follow Grace from room to room. In fact, about the only time he got up was to eat. Then he would immediately lay back down.

Grace did not understand why her best friend didn’t want to play with her any more. The family explained that Beau didn’t feel well and that they would take him to the vet, which they did. The news, however, was not good.

The vet detected a heart murmur and recommended Beau see a cardiac specialist at the University of Florida’s school of veterinary medicine. It was there that Dr. Estrada found the reason for Beau’s extreme lethargy. He had a genetic heart condition called subaortic stenosis; if not treated, it was fatal.

Dr. Estrada explained that a dog’s heart pressure grade should be zero, but Beau’s was a deadly 176! An extra ridge of skin in his heart was creating pressure; blood could not flow freely because of it. In order to repair nature’s mistake, Dr. Estrada would perform a new surgery that inserted a “cutting balloon” into Beau’s heart. Once it inflated, blades along the balloon’s edges would cut away the ridge of tissue that obstructed blood flow.

The family was in shock. No one had imagined anything like this! It was a risky operation for sure, but it was Beau’s only chance at a normal life. Dr. Estrada stressed the good news. At 10 months old, Beau was the perfect age for this surgery. The longer the condition went untreated, the greater the damage to the heart and the less responsive the heart is to treatment. Truly, time was of the essence.

As you can imagine, the price tag for this procedure was way out of this family’s reach.

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Beau’s New Frontier
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Still, it didn’t stop Gabrielle and her family. “We knew we were not going to throw in the towel,” Gabrielle told us firmly. “We had brought him this far and Beau deserved a happy, healthy dog life.”

Dr. Estrada put Beau on an anti-arrhythmia medication to temporarily bring down his heart pressure. He needed to stay on it for a month before the surgery. It didn’t take long for the medicine to take effect. Once again, he was glued to Grace’s side, following her from room to room, and playing again.

In the meantime, Gabrielle got to work and set up a GoFundMe campaign and asked her community to help. But a village struggling to put food on the table could not hear Gabrielle’s heartfelt plea. No one responded.

Undeterred, she got to work researching financial aid sources. That’s when she found The Mosby Foundation. Immediately, Gabrielle sent in an application. Gabrielle’s family wasn’t asking anyone to pay for Beau’s surgery. All she wanted was some help, and that was in very short supply in her neighborhood.

You can imagine how surprised she was to hear from Dreama, one of our office staff. “She is such a wonderful lady. Dreama is so kind and has a wonderful heart!” Gabrielle told us enthusiastically.

When The Mosby Foundation sponsored a special fundraiser for Beau, “It brought me to tears,” Gabrielle said. Financial aid aside, sometimes we feel that perhaps the greatest gift The Mosby Foundation gives is unwavering support at such a difficult time, especially when there is so little support for the family.

“I’m completely overwhelmed by your generosity and your concern for my dog Beau!” A grateful Gabrielle told us. “The Mosby Foundation’s donation will be saving Beau’s life and I can’t thank you enough.”

Thirty days later, Gabrielle and her family took Beau back to the University of Florida for his pre-op testing. While they waited, Dr. Estrada was scrubbing up. That’s when she got the text message that changed everything. Frantically, she texted back, “Don’t cath Beau! Stop right now!”

An intern appeared in the waiting room and told the family that Dr. Estrada wanted to see them, but it wasn’t bad news. When Dr. Estrada entered the room, she was almost floating on air. “We’re postponing the surgery at this time,” she said, elated.

Shocked, the family asked why and learned Beau’s heart pressure grade had dropped a staggering 80 points. The norm is 10-20! “I could have fallen out of my seat!” Gabrielle told us. Dr. Estrada had no explanation for why Beau had such an incredible response to the medication, especially given the severity of his condition. In fact, this dramatic response had never happened before. No one scheduled for surgery has ever left without having it. It truly was a miracle!

The news got even better. Beau’s heart muscles were starting to return to their normal size. “We were blown away!” An ecstatic Gabrielle said. Beau’s pressure is still considered severe and the ridge in his heart is still there. But as Dr. Estrada noted, this is a new frontier in subaortic stenosis treatment.

The hope is that this medication is the answer for Beau’s condition. Beau will be rechecked in 3 months to monitor his progress. Gabrielle summed up Beau’s progress. “I am hoping and praying that his response to drug therapy treatment will continue to be the answer for him. Thank you for all that The Mosby Foundation has done for Beau! Thank you with all my heart.”

For the family that took a desperate employment situation and turned it into an opportunity, it takes a lot of heart to do that. We have no doubt they will be successful.

And for the dog that had no hope and no love, Beau now has an abundance of both.

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Gimme Shelter
continued from 5

**Dollar-Los Angeles CA**

Dollar is a 4 year old mixed breed purchased from a Breeder. Dollar was diagnosed with Lymphoma stage II/IVA with enlargement of multiple lymph nodes on both sides of his diaphragm with possible liver and spleen involvement. His prognosis was poor without treatment and his guardian was unable to afford the chemotherapy regimen needed to keep him alive. Because of generous grants from Blue Buffalo and Petco Dollar is currently undergoing Prednisone and Cyclophosphamide chemotherapy.

**Anna - Dale City VA**

Anna is a 4 year old Boxer that had been brought to a local park by her previous owner and left there tied to a bench. She was diagnosed with Lymphoblastic Lymphoma in her stomach. Her Vet said she is “the poster dog for good chemotherapy results” but her owner was struggling with the overwhelming cost of her chemotherapy until The Mosby Foundation helped. Anna had lost a lot of weight but is now slowly regaining her strength and is able to run around a little and play catch with her grateful owner.

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Special Thanks to:

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THE WILLIAM H. DONNER FOUNDATION, INC.

for their generous grant to assist in the care of non-routine medical care for dogs in need
Memorials

IN MEMORY OF DOGS

SOPHIE, from Janice Ballinger

DONALD, beloved dog of David & Gail Brown. He brought so much joy to our lives in the short time we had with him. We love you Donald Dog, from Patty & William Morrell

DONALD, the wonderful Aussie heart dog of Gail and Dave Brown, from Carole & John Adams

DONALD, such a sweet ‘Mama’s Boy’ will be missed forever, from Gail & Dave Brown

DONALD, wonderful companion of Gail & Dave Brown, from George & Sharon Goodrow

DONALD, from Lois Sensabaugh

BITSY, a special, sweet, rescued beagle girl of Mollie McCurdy, from Carole & John Adams

BITSY, a sweet, cute, darling little soul who had been terribly abused and neglected. In loving memory to Bitsy who gave me 7 years of delight, from Mollie McCurdy

MISSY & CLARA, my beloved companions and friends – my 4 footed furry family members, from Eleanor Pages

SOPHIE, from Janice Ballinger

HANZI & TOBI, who taught us the true value and strength of unconditional love, from Jim & Cheryl Reichard

COOPER, Corgi of Henley Gabeau, from Jean Hoffman

KAYLA, from Juanita Carter

ROCKY, beloved companion of Grace Garey, from Louise Mocalla

MISSY, beloved companion of Sarah Cheverton, from Traci Zimmerman

GRETCHEN, dear companion of Shelley Aley, from Traci Zimmerman

PACO, beloved dog of Lois & Mark Leinhram, from Richard Hilleston

OLLIE MARTIN, from Pat Harrington

OPIE HEIZER, beloved chocolate lab of Susanne Heizer, from Henley Gabeau

FLETCH, smart, handsome, loved Border Collie of Ginger Taylor, from Carole Adams

BRADIE, sweet girl, you were a good girl and your Mom & Dad adored you. The Magnos

MOSBY & PETUNIA, my precious dogs, from John Perlman

BOB McGUIRE, a friend to all and a loving companion to his family we’ll miss you, from Pat Harrington

BOB McGUIRE, a loving companion who will be greatly missed, from Dave & Gail Brown

LADY, from Audrey Hutchison

MONA LISA, in loving memory of our Mona Lisa who you helped in 2014. Bless you Mosby Foundation! From Sina Rogers

MAGGIE MAY, our beautiful, sweet lab/pit mix who suddenly passed away in November at age 8 from visceral hemangiosarcoma. We miss you terribly, from Carrie Dean

ERDA, a dear dog that was much loved by her parents, Wayne and Mark, from Traci Zimmerman

KILLIAN, beloved companion of Anita Clemmer, from Katherine Ambrose

LCB, dearly beloved cat of Jean Hoffman, from Jeanne Hoffman and Bobby Whitescarver

PAIGE, beloved Border Collie of Joe Shomo, from Jeanne Hoffman and Bobby Whitescarver

LADY, a very special and beloved Dobeman of Roger & Carolyn Stirling, from Linda French

ROCKY, SHASTA, & LUCKY, from Merle Phillips

MAGGIE, beloved companion of Jeff Litten. We will never forget her special ‘Howls,’ Love, Bob, Christine, & Darlene

MOOSE BENGEN, in memory of MOOSE, please help someone in need. I wish I had more since I believe so much in what your foundation does. My heart is still broken and I miss my boy every day. 7:10 - 4-27-15 was way too young. From Donna Bengen & Moose

AMANDA ROSE, I miss you so much everyday, you’re always in my heart, Love, Jan Johnson

BELLE SCOTT, beloved companion of Emily & Dave Stott, from Pat Harrington

MAGGIE, from Mary Steele Ferguson

COOPE ARMENTROUT, the sweetest girl who will always miss and never forget, from Erin Armentroat

CHANCE, beloved pet of Patty Warren, from Kay Pfaltz

RILEY MARIE, my beloved fur baby, from Melody Pannell

VERGIL, beloved companion of Deborah Murray, from Brenda & Gary Murray

NIKKI, my sweet girl; I miss her the most this time of year, from Dianne & Ian Edwards

EVA MCDONNELL, a wonderful, dear dog, who was loved dearly and will be missed deeply, from Traci Zimmerman

MOSBY ADAMS, a sweet innocent boy and all of the others, from Janet K. Schlosser

MOSBY, JEB, MAGGIE, HANK, SAMMY, & ALL THE OTHER RESCUED AND LOVED DOGS, of Carole & Johnny Adams, from Lonnie & Vicki Soles

BAM BAM, CHARLOTTE, NICK & LUCY, from David & Debbie Hughes

SOPHIE, dear, sweet Sophie, the best dog a family could have! Love Bob & Christine

Mickey, LAYA, BUDDY & RIKKI, from Spencer & Ann Taylor

MAX, my wonderful dog, from Allison Claudet

HAPPY DYER, beloved companion of Marcella Dyer, from Mollie McCurdy.

CODY, beloved dog of Rablah Seminole, from Mollie McCurdy

BIG GEORGE, LITTLE GEORGE & SHOES, from Pete Dey

BUCK, beloved dog of the Scott Landale family, from Ron Livingston, Jr.

BUCK LANDALE, deeply loved Yellow Lab of Scott, April, Tessa & Eliza, friend & mentor to Ted & Pulkka Keresaite, from Lonnie & Vicki Soles

BEAU, MAGGIE, PUP, B SHERLY, beloved dogs of Lonnie & Vicki Soles, from Lonnie & Vicki Soles

MERLE, who with his forever friend Ted Keresaite gave us MERLE’S DOOR, from Lonnie & Vicki Soles

IN MEMORY OF PEOPLE

JOELLEN ESMWILER, she was a great friend to so many people and pets – she will be missed by all who knew her, from Kathlyn Dobyns & Hunter

TOMMY EVERS, from Malinda ‘Kaye’ Eavers

MARTIN L. PALMER, JR., from Bev Grimes

TRACEY ROGERS BOWEN, from Judy & Bobby Rogers

RAYMOND A. GRANDSTAFF, WW’11 VET, from Heather Harris

DAVE & COLLEEN SURRATT, from Lonnie & Vicki Soles

GINDA COLLEEN, beloved daughter, from Lonnie & Vicki Soles

IN HONOR OF PEOPLE

TODD & KELLY DEAN for all the compassionate & loving work they do, from Gail & Dave Brown

CINDY ROBERTS & LAURIE DOWNING, from Dean & Allison Humbert

GOD BLESS YOU ALL, from Marilyn Ross

WISHING ALL OF YOU a very Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year! Thank you for all you do, from Vicki Walter

THE MOSBY FOUNDATION, for all you do! From Michael Reddy

GINNY WARD, from your staff at Daikin Applied...Merry Christmas!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS! To ALL OF OUR CLIENTS at Middle River Veterinary Hospital, Verona, VA. We are truly appreciative of each one of you as you share our philosophy of care and compassion for all pets. Thank you all for the wonderful work you do for all of our canine friends. From Kathryn A. Dobyns, DVM and staff

KENT & VICKI SCARRATT, from Robert Scarratt

GINGER TAYLOR, from Margaret Brandel

CAMERON & BETSY ELLIS, from Elizabeth Ellis

BILL & SUSIE GILBERG, from Lynne & Dan GilbertArvin

CAROLE ADAMS, who has given so much of herself for so many years with the help of all of Mosby’s wonderful volunteers, from Marilyn Ross

ANGELA BROWN...from Arne Frank...from JoAnne Maynard

CLAUDETTE J. TROUT...from Barbara Wallace...on her 80th Birthday, from Betty Gentry-Metzger

NIKKI, our beloved dog, from Jane Cangalosi

OTTER, TERRY, & Janet’s Yellow lab, from Scott Klager

LULU, from Pamela Gwathney

WONDER, beloved kitty of Barbara & Jim Bradley

JOSIE ANDERSON, from Mary George

PAIGE & GRACE GEORGE, from Mary George

SAWYER, my Cocker Spaniel, from Brenda Wilkinson

IN HONOR OF DOGS

ALL BLACK GERMAN SHEPHERD DOGS, from Erica Stoecker

Special Thanks to: Greyhounds ROCK.org

For their generous grant to our cancer fund.
You guys truly do rock!
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