



Sam Hoppes

January 25, 1997 - May 16, 2011

On a chilly, rainy March 13, 1997 our lives forever changed. Sam, at 2 months old, entered our hearts and home on that day.

Even though the first couple years proved a little bumpy between Sam and his cat sister Silkie, both eventually learned to tolerate each other and even became "partners in crime" on a few occasions.

Sam was a perfect "people pup". He touched so many hearts during his short lifetime. Sam was chosen best in class at his puppy kindergarten and later became an unofficial volunteer at an adult daycare facility. Purdue University chose Sam's image to be painted on one of their statutes, which now sits in the Purdue Small Animal Hospital in Lafayette, In.

Sam's most loving personality overflowed with kindness and devotion. So many "Kodak moments" and comical antics will never be forgotten. Sam was a master shoe and sock thief and would hold his prized possession until ransom treat was paid. Sam dearly loved belly and back rubs. He loved adventure walks, riding in his stroller, and car trips. Sam loved the wind blowing through his beautiful long hair. He loved vanilla ice cream and bananas. Sam loved ladybugs, boiled chicken, canned salmon, Culver's french fries, and Velveta. He loved afternoon naps. Sam simply loved life. Sam and his mom, Debbie, instantly developed a bond that could never be duplicated. He was truly his mom's "heartbeat at my feet". They were totally devoted to each other. The bond they shared will never be broken, not even by death.

Sam endured a multitude of medical challenges during his lifetime. Sam's strength and courage throughout exemplified his amazing strong will to survive, During the past year, Sam was diagnosed with terminal lymphoid leukemia and chronic kidney failure. Sadly, these diseases were too strong, even for Sam.

Sam is our hero in so many ways. He taught life lessons that we will never forget.

On a chilly, rainy May 16, 2011 our lives again forever changed. Our precious, beloved Sam, at 14 years 4 months, passed away on that day. Sam is survived by his pet parents, Debbie and Larry Hoppes, and his cat sister Silkie . Sam was preceded in death by his cat sister KiKi.

The memories and love we shared with Sam will never die.

Baby Sam, we will always love you. "You are the sunshine of my life. You are the apple of my eye". Forever.

Tribute Wall

BR

“ *This is beautiful. I happened to stumble upon it as I was looking for a memorial stone for a furry family member. Sam was well loved, he knew it.*

Briana - October 13, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CD

“ *Dear Aunt Debbie and Uncle Larry,*

I am so very sorry that you have had to experience the loss of your beloved Sam. I know how much joy and comfort he brought to you. The special bond you had with Sam is amazing. I know you will forever be together in your hearts. You are always in my thoughts and prayers. Let me know if you ever need anything - I love you.

Love, Courtney and Curtis Dodd

Courtney Dodd - June 27, 2011 at 12:00 AM

VW

“ *I know this has been your darkest time, because, I know how much you truly loved and cherished Sam. There are no words that I can offer up to sooth that pain. Just remember that I too have traveled that path and that my thoughts are with you every step of the way.*

vickey weathers - June 09, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ I am sorry for your loss. I lost my beautiful black lab, Abbey, on September 24, 2010 to throat cancer. I was privileged and honored that she came into our lives, making the last 11 years the most blessed that I could have ever asked for. Trust me, it is hard, but memories are so comforting and just realize Sam was with his beloved family until the very end, surrounded by never-ending love. I have you in my thoughts and prayers. You gave Sam a beautiful life.

marilyn - June 09, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ Dear Debbie,
We share in the sorrow of your loss but we rejoice with you at your Sweet Sammie's release.
After speaking with you I found this little verse - I hope it comforts you.
When you see a butterfly...
Think of me when butterflies are flying everywhere,
I'm running, dancing, laughing
free from Earth's despair.
Inside this place of beauty
God's prescence is always near,
far past imagination
is this land that has no fear.
Keep a song inside your heart
and know that I am free.
When you see a butterfly...
smile and remember me.

Kathy Flemming - June 08, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KI

“ I am so sorry about Sam.

kim - June 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KI

“ *My heart goes out to you*

kim - June 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DL

“ *What an amazing, beautiful, doggie your Sam is. What a wonderful memorial for your dearly beloved pet angel. I did not know your precious Sam...nor you or your family, but I lost my precious Madison, on January 4th of this year, and while going thru the website, saw Sams photo and memorial tribute...and had to write and tell you how sorry I am for your loss. People say it gets better in time...but it has been 5 months since I lost my baby girl, and it still hurts just as bad. Please know that I and others care and will be keeping you in our prayers. A friend of mine had a life size oil painting done of my Madison..for me. I kiss her picture every morning, and say a prayer for her each night...she is forever in my heart...as I know Sam is in yours. May God Bless you and your family*

Deborah Long - June 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AT

“ *Sam was a gentle and loving boy. May you find comfort in recalling the times you have shared with him. Please know that you are in our thoughts.*

Amy Swinford-Loyal and True - June 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM