

Jade's Legacy

By Monica Negron, animal volunteer

Jade was dropped off at a SPCA in Pennsylvania. My husband, to keep himself sane, had signed off in the past, letting me foster a Weimaraner here and there, but always reminding of his strict rule: "No More Dogs, Monica." Despite how sad Jade looked, the rule still applied, but I was able to serve as her foster. For the first month she was with us as our foster dog, she was a very shy loner. She spent time with us, but not the way we were accustomed to a Weimaraner doing. (This, if you have any Weimaraner experience means that you are NEVER, ever alone and basically serve as a human chair for them.) After about six weeks we got a call from the Rescue saying they had found a potential forever home. With a bit of sadness in my heart, I went to tell my husband that it was time for Jade to go, since I knew the rule, "No More Dogs, Monica." Much to my surprise, my husband's response to the bittersweet news was that she already had an adoptive home - our own.

This was the beginning of a new way of life in our house. Jade changed the "rules" for everything. Before Jade, dogs were NOT allowed on the furniture. Jade not only made herself at home on our family room furniture, she also had her very own chair in the family room. Jade was so full of life and spunky in a couch potato kind of way. She would just lie on her chair in the sun for hours, but when she felt spry, it was like she was a puppy again, well a puppy with arthritis. People just loved her. I'm convinced that she was a Queen in a previous life. She always looked so regal and pristine.

Over the last 6 months as she got sicker and slowed down more, we spent more time in the vet's office, trying different things to keep her comfortable and happy. The last time we took her to the vet was heartbreaking. It was time to end our journey with our Rescue Queen. Jade

was so many things, she changed our lives in so many ways. She was beautiful, smart, stubborn, loving and funny. When we were sad, she knew how to make it better. She inspired us. She showed us just how much you can get out of rescuing a senior dog. After Jade's passing, we contacted Tri-State Weimaraner Rescue to see if we could start a program that would help dogs like Jade and honor her memory. We started the "Jade's Senior Scholarship Program." It is a program to help care for senior foster weims. We are so proud of this program and really hope that we can help a lot of other seniors who are in Jade's position. More information on Jade's scholarship program can be found at www.tristateweimrescue.org.

