

# *Pookie Louise Mueller*

*A Celebration of Life  
Memorial Service*







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*Memorial Service at Idyllwild Pines, McNeil Hall  
Saturday, May 9, 2015, 2:30-4:30 PM*

**P**ookie Louise Mueller was our adopted and beloved rescue dog saved by Idyllwild Animal Rescue Friends (ARF) when she was abandoned at Lake Hemet in a wild area.

We adopted Pookie on April 26, 2013. Marty Krieger took the rescue call for ARF and went to Lake Hemet, caught Pookie, and brought her to ARF. For this, we will always be very grateful.

Our darling girl, Pookie Louise Mueller, passed away on April 21, 2015. At the time of Pookie's passing, she was estimated by veterinarians to be approximately 16 years of age. Pookie always said she wasn't telling her age.

Pookie was an amazing dog and always faced adversity with a very positive attitude. Because of her beautiful face, soulful eyes, darling antics chronicled in writing, and positive upbeat attitude towards life, she captured the hearts of the community members of Idyllwild and more than 4000 people worldwide, many of whom knew Pookie through her posts on Facebook. Local residents and Idyllwild visitors had the pleasure of meeting Pookie in person on numerous occasions as she participated in downtown Mayoral visits and events on and off the Hill.

Upon learning of Pookie's passing, hundreds of people have contacted us with their loving and heartfelt communications, comments, private messages, cards, telephone calls, personal greetings, condolences, and hugs. So many said, "There was just something about her." In the words of one of Pookie's dearest friends, Pat Murkland, Pat said, "Farewell to Pookie Mueller, who died today after a long life, in the last years especially beloved to Idyllwild Mayor Max and family. She was said to be a rescue dog, but as it turned out, her amazing spirit instead rescued all of us. We join her many fans and friends around the globe in saying, Godspeed, Pookie." Many have also made donations to animal rescue groups, especially to Pookie's beloved ARF. We have been deeply moved by this outpouring, and your kind words and comments have comforted us greatly.

We believe Pookie survived her abandonment at Lake Hemet because she was very aggressive with coyotes. If she saw a coyote, she would bark, growl and run for it with amazing speed. We saw this in action more than once if a pesky coyote got too close. She always

spotted them before we did, and she was amazing at alerting us to the potential danger.

One of Pookie's hilarious quirks was her head-butting. She was like having a mini bull in the house, and she liked to run up to things (particularly closed doors) and butt them with her head. We soon learned we were never allowed to close the bathroom door or there was going to be a great deal of head-butting, which always startled us, but she seemed to love it anyway.

Pookie was always on patrol by repetitively looking left to right and never really stopping that action. In the house, she also did her patrols by walking throughout the house. As soon as she finished her tour of the house, she would start again and do another tour, then another. She was always on the lookout. Good thing, too, because there could have been a Golden Retriever Mayor on the loose right around the corner!

Pookie had three jobs that she cherished.

1. She was the Puppy Rearing Professional (PRP) for the Mayors of Idyllwild that she loved to call the Hooligan Muelligan Mayors of Idyllwild. Pookie actually had a big role in helping to raise Mayors Max, Mitzi, and Mikey since they were 11-, 8-, and 8-pound puppies. She takes full responsibility for the Mayors being the frisky, mischievous Mayors that they are.
2. She was the Mascot for Wooley's, one of her most favorite stores in Idyllwild where she loved to sit and "visit with visitors" as we like to say. Everyone at Wooley's became dear friends with Pookie, and she always looked forward to her time there. Beginning at about 3pm each day, Pookie would stand by the front door letting us know it's time to go to Wooley's.
3. She was a prolific communicator on Facebook and liked to share her thoughts and adventures with everyone. She always had something to say. The occasional post over time became daily posts, and she continues to write and share her thoughts on Facebook in "Pookie's Heavenly Update."

Pookie loved to sit on Glenn's lap and watch TV. We made sure all of the shows she watched were suitable for viewing. She was fascinated by the TV screen and watched intently. She loved to be carried, too, and would fall asleep like a baby whether she was being carried or just sitting on our laps.

Pookie was a finicky eater, more like a cat than a Golden Retriever. She would eat a little, then go back later for more. She nibbled all day long rather than gulped her food.

She liked to make it challenging to get her to take her medicine, so we had to get creative in getting her to take her pills. We found we could usually get a pill in her if we tried putting it in what became her favorite foods of all time: braunschweiger, bacon, and donuts. Her eyes would become like huge saucers whenever these foods were around. She would go cross-eyed trying to watch the food go in her mouth. Once she became a more finicky eater, she developed a huge appetite for Gerber baby food and really loved the beef and turkey flavors. I fully credit Gerber baby food with extending Pookie's life by another month because Pookie had stopped eating, and the Gerber baby food turned this all around. She loved it so much, she didn't want to let go of the spoon. We had so much fun feeding her at this time of her life.

Pookie always slept on what we call "the big dog bed" with Phyllis and Glenn. No matter where she started out on the bed, Pookie always ended up by Phyllis' legs, resulting in Phyllis always getting the upper 1/8th of the bed, and Pookie having all the rest of the bed on Phyllis' side. It was fortunate that Phyllis can sleep anywhere, anytime, no matter how uncomfortable, and Phyllis would NEVER disturb or relocate Pookie. This even included when Pookie snuggled up so close, that Phyllis would have half of Phyllis' body hanging out over the bed. Somehow, Pookie being up so close was just so endearing.

Pookie loved ear massages and chin rubbing, and she got these petting sessions regularly!

In late March, 2015, Pookie got her beloved wheels that returned full mobility to her when she was in them. She could twirl in circles and run in straight lines. She became obsessed with running and twirling, and Phyllis would sit up late evenings with Pookie while she continued to twirl. Pookie became equally good at twirling in both directions. Pookie was a happy dog for her two years with Phyllis and Glenn, but she seemed the happiest ever when she got her wheels. She loved to run fast and certainly made up for lost time once we got her into the wheels. It only took Pookie three days to master her wheels. She loved her wheels so much. Sometimes, we will hear her wheels going in circles in the house, even now, past her departure.

Last but not least, Pookie was all about unconditional love. She loves you very much, and she always will. She is and will forever be your dear and devoted friend. When you think of Pookie, please know that she is visiting you from the spiritual universe and that she loves you so much.

Thank you for loving Pookie. We cannot thank you enough.

Love always,

Phyllis Louise Mueller  
Glenn Warren  
Pookie's Mom and Dad

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