

# Jacksonville Sheltie Rescue

Greetings Everyone,  
In the last few weeks several of our friends have lost very special companions. We are sending deepest sympathy to all of you and your families.

Jax Sheltie Rescue  
P.O. 23651  
Jacksonville, FL  
32244

## August

Your Editor:  
Darla Duffey

### Special points of interest:

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### Fragile Circle

"We who choose to surround ourselves with lives even more temporary than our own,  
live within a fragile circle,  
easily and often breached.

Unable to accept its awful gaps,  
we still would live no other way.

We cherish memory as the only certain immortality,  
never fully understanding the necessary plan."

Irving Townsend

### Rainbow Bridge: Sequel To The Original

Oh, when we get to Heaven  
We hope that we will find  
The souls that once we loved  
Who left us all behind.

Some left us at the right time  
They left this world in peace  
Others left to sudden  
Without the chance to say Goodbye,  
They were gone before we had  
The chance to even cry.

There's a special place for grownups  
A special place for kids  
Me? I'll be on the other side  
The side called Rainbow Bridge.

Across the dark green meadow  
A'top the hills I'll run  
Where the colors from the rainbow  
Glitter from the sun.

And there I'll find my sweetheart  
Running fast toward me  
In my arms where he belongs  
For all eternity.

Jean McColgan

### Sheltie Meet-Up.

Please see website for more information.  
<http://www.meetup.com/The-Jacksonville-Shetland-Sheepdog-Meetup-Group/>

Nancy & Mark Erickson are founders and there are 75 members.  
We "meet up" and let the dogs run and play together while the humans watch and laugh .

December 2010

After about a week and a half of investigating with bloodwork, xrays and CAT scans, it's been discovered that he has a tumor of the thymus or thymoma. Then on top of that he quickly developed immune-mediated polyarthritis and was hardly able to walk. He's 9! Actually just turned 9 on the 17th of Dec. The outcome is not good. The tx options are very invasive with not much of an extension on life. Needless to say, I'm heartbroken. Right now he's on steroids to help with the major joint inflammation. The timing was awful with the Christmas holiday falling right in the middle of when I need to see the oncology vet (there's only one in town) and so forth. I was just wondering if you've ever heard of this particular type of cancer in shelties? I can't imagine not having him around.

I'm working with Dr. Don Hamilton in New Mexico and my gut is to go with homeopathy for as long as it helps and then.....

1-14-2011

Since contacting you, I've had Casey on a regimen of homeopathics and nutraceuticals to support his immune system and hopefully keep the tumor at bay or even shrink it. So as a result, for now, Casey is feeling alot better. I'm not going to listen to what the internal medicine vet said with regards to a timeline. Thanks for your feedback about chemo, surgery, etc. It helped to hear that and trust I was making the right decision for Casey to not pursue those avenues. That's the news for now.

Shelley and Casey in Tucson, AZ



7-29-2011

Darla,

Wanted you to know that I had to put Casey down today. I know I made the right decision, I just wish I could've had a few more years with him. He was such a special little soul and one of the most beautiful shelties I've ever seen. He left an impression wherever he went, he really did. I travelled alot with him staying in the same hotels and people ALWAYS remembered him and then they would know who I was because I was with Casey. Anyway, a piece of my heart went with him when he passed. I know you understand. Thank you for what you do in rescuing all the lovely shelties. I look at a sheltie and my heart absolutely melts.

A heartbroken sheltie mom.

Shelley Reid in Tucson, AZ

PS. I will be making a donation in Casey's name and honor.

Casey was born 12-9-2001

6-17-11

First off, Annie is still successfully battling her bladder cancer. She's 2 years into the good fight and our last visit to Jacksonville Oncology showed that she has one small lesion left that is almost undetectable. She has been on another 3 months of Chemo, and although she had some minor setbacks which required her going on IV fluids for 11 hours a day for 3 days in a row on two occasions, she is doing GREAT! We go back to Jax July 11 for another round of testing. Piper our rescue is almost 2 years with us now and we love her to pieces. She and Annie have bonded beautifully and Jamaica our cat thinks Piper is his hide and seek partner.



From Nonie Willard & Margaret Jones: 8-2-2011

For all of you that know that our dear Annie has been battling bladder cancer for the past 2 years, we just wanted to share that we had to let her go today. Now she is playing happily with her sister Leilai over the Rainbow Bridge! : )

#####

Princessa also passed recently.  
She came to Sheltie Rescue in Aug 06.  
She was 8 years old.  
She was adopted by Carrie Andolina in Feb 07.  
Carrie dearly loved her "Princessa" and her death was not expected.



My heart goes out to Carrie in sympathy on her loss.

#####

Liz Winkert who lost Bandit a few months ago. We brought him back here and he was diagnosed with Bladder Cancer. Liz is disabled and was not able to care for him.  
We tried surgery hoping to extend his life, hoping at some point he could go back home to Liz, but it was not meant to be. He is failing and soon we will have to send him to Rainbow Bridge.  
He has lived with Liz for 6 years. Liz calls Bandit the perfect Sheltie. AND he is.... So sad that he is leaving so soon.



**NFSTBH - rare photo** \*

(North Florida Sable-Tufted Bed-Hopper. )

Here we see the Hopper secure in its natural habitat.

This is a very rare photo.

Hoppers, especially the North Florida Sable-Tufted specie, are normally found hopping only during periods of deep darkness.



\* We have taken to calling CC the “ North Florida Sable-Tufted Bed-Hopper” because she hits all the beds and couches at least once every night. She is a blast. If you get a call about the “crazy man on the bike” – cover my six!



Note to readers: Notice the license plate on Dave’s bike... One of our biggest supporters! —————>  
**With “CC” in the basket. Aka NFSTBH**

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From Randi Cohen: Proud Mama.

Had to send a quick email to let you know the latest news on Nike. Although we have mostly been working on self control, she had been in one class and I thought I would enter her in the new AKC Beginner Novice class at our local trial. Not only did she get her first title, but she won the class every trial. Out of a possible 200, her scores were 197, 198 and 199. On the last leg we even had a heeling run off to break a tie and she won! The Beginner Novice Class also happened to be the largest classes of the trial. She defeated about 13 or 14 other dogs. I am a very proud Mom!!! Thanks again Darla for seeing a diamond in the "ruff", Randi Cohen.



\*\*\*\*\*

Last months newsletter’s Sheltie....Curtsy. Happy Dance....new home.

Hi Darla,  
We made it home about 9:30 after stopping to feed the dogs. Curtsy was given the tour and is settling in nicely to her new surroundings and with the other dogs. They are all getting along well. Attached is a picture for you - we will keep in touch. Thank you for working with us to adopt her - she will be loved so much and cared for well!

Dale Owen  
Lillie Burnett



Dale



Lillie

Of the 7 Shelties we took in last month, 2 little girls, Bella & Hannah were no longer anemic and we were able to have them spayed this week. The Bi-Black boy, Samson has gone to Judy at Mid-Florida Sheltie Rescue. The others are biding their time.  
We have a total of 19 at this time.

Last week we took in a sable Sheltie girl we are calling Ladybug. She is probably 7 yrs old. She is a sweetheart,  
(Gee I say that about all of them :-))



She came from Georgia, she was found living in a cemetery last November and her benefactor isn't able to keep her any longer as she and her husband want to travel.  
She is a bigger girl, she weighs about 43 lbs.

Samantha and Alan are fostering the little 15 year old "Cody". Little Cody has his medical problems but Sam is keeping up with him and them.

### **Beyond The Rainbow**

As much as I loved the life we had and all the times we played,  
I was so very tired and knew my time on earth would fade.  
I saw a wondrous image then of a place that's trouble-free  
Where all of us can meet again to spend eternity.

I saw the most beautiful Rainbow, and on the other side  
Were meadows rich and beautiful -- lush and green and wide!  
And running through the meadows as far as the eye could see  
Were animals of every sort as healthy as could be!  
My own tired, failing body was fresh and healed and new  
And I wanted to go run with them, but I had something left to do.

I needed to reach out to you, to tell you I'm alright  
That this place is truly wonderful, then a bright Glow pierced the night.  
'Twas the Glow of many Candles shining bright and strong and bold  
And I knew then that it held your love in its brilliant shades of gold.

For although we may not be together in the way we used to be,  
We are still connected by a cord no eye can see.  
So whenever you need to find me, we're never far apart  
If you look beyond the Rainbow and listen with your heart

**Jacksonville Sheltie Rescue thanks our vets for their care of all of our animals.  
We truly appreciate their kindness and professionalism.**

**Mandarin**

**Dwight Nash, DVM &  
Grant McMillian, DVM  
San Jose Beauclerc Animal Clinic  
9319 San Jose Blvd  
Jacksonville FL 32257  
Phone: 904-733-5022**

**Northside:**

**P.C. ("Skip") Hightman, DVM, Cva, AP  
Dr. Lynn Sattesahn DVM  
4606 Brentwood Ave  
Jacksonville FL 32206  
Phone: 904-354-0547  
Conventional & alternative medicines. Certified  
acupuncturist. Certified Chinese Herbalist,  
Chiropractic**

**Fleming Island**

**Coral Turman, DVM  
Creekside Animal Clinic  
14 Swimming Pen Drive  
Middleburg FL 32068  
Phone: 904-541-0110  
Conventional services.  
Certified acupuncturist**

**Near NAS-JAX**

**Thomas Cox, DVM  
5273 Timuquana Rd  
Jacksonville FL 32210  
Phone: 904-779-0311**



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Annie, Casey, and Princessa, and very soon Bandit.

God knew that you were suffering.  
That the hills were hard to climb  
So He gently closed your eyelids  
And whispered "Peace be thine."

In tears we watched you sinking  
We watched you fade away  
Our hearts were surely broken  
You fought so hard to stay

But when we saw you sleeping  
So peaceful, free from pain  
We could not wish you back  
To suffer that again

It broke our hearts to lose you  
But you did not go alone  
For part of us went with you  
The day God called you home.

By Constance Jenkins

## DONATIONS

**Thank you to all our contributors. All the kids in Rescue thank you too—for helping pay for their food, their medications, their vet visits. They send you their sheltie smiles! We send you our human ones, too. ;0**

**Monthly Donations (so faithfully month after month) Thank you, thank you!**

**Peter & Velma Stuart (Pace, Fl) Skip, from JSR, Callie (rescued from an abusive home in Pensacola, B-Ray and Cricket (two of the Pennsylvania rescues through JSR) and Boo, found on the run in southeast Alabama.**

**Dave & Marilyn Dahl now owned by Cindy—"CC" the monster.**

**Judge Peter & Norma Dearing (Jacksonville) Owned by Gus, Dana and Honey**

**Nonie Willard & Margaret Jones owned by Piper & Annie**

**Carrie Andolina who has 2 of our rescue kids**

### **Other Donations**

**IBM Corporation**

**Grainger Corporation via Kathy Cochran**

**Donna Smith Owned by Rebound and others.**

**Robin Scheiderman**

**Gabriella Altaratz (from Israel)**

**Brian & Carolyn Davis owned by Keeley**

**Joseph & Frances Rodriguez**

Jacksonville Sheltie Rescue is a 501 c 3 Charity. This means if you donate to help our Shelties the amount allowed by law can be taken off your taxes as a donation. We will send you a Letter of Donation for your records.

If you'd like to make a donation in Remembrance of a beloved dog who has passed, we will note that on the Jax Sheltie Rescue web page as well as in future newsletters.

We accept checks and "Paypal". The paypal account is dduffey@aol.com, the same as my email address.

**Help us pay our vet bills for our rescued Shelties by: We got a check this year for \$40.**

Searching the Internet at [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) -- powered by Yahoo, or "www.Goodshop.com"

Type in 'Jacksonville Sheltie Rescue'(Jacksonville, Fl)

Goodsearch donates to charities like us every time you search thru **"Goodsearch"**

or a portion of your purchases at online stores are donated back to us.

### **Faithful Friend**

**God summoned a beast from the field and he said.....**

**"I endow you with the instincts uncommon to other beasts: faithfulness, devotion and understanding surpassing those of man himself.**

**Lest it impair your understanding you are denied the power of words, Speak to your master only with your mind and through honest eyes.**

**So be silent, and be a friend to man... This shall be your destiny and your immortality." So spake the Lord**

**And the dog heard and was content.**



## Another skeptic saw the Bridge

My sweet retriever, Karma, was buried at the pet cemetery today. For three years she lived with cancer, but she lost the battle at the age of 15. Karma looked like a black golden retriever, with long, midnight-black hair, as soft and shiny as mink. She came into my life when she was two months old, and we loved each other more than I can say -- I was her mom, and she was my little girl.

A week before Karma died, I had the vet come to my house because Karma was experiencing pain, and I didn't want Karma to be terrified by taking her to the vet (she'd been there so many times). The vet prescribed pain medicine and said that Karma's time was drawing near, but not yet. The vet also mentioned Rainbow Bridge, which I'd never heard of, but I supposed it was just another name for heaven. By coincidence, a few days later, I found the "Rainbow Bridge" poem on [petloss.com](http://petloss.com). I thought it was a nice story, but I really couldn't believe it, because there was no fact or proof to base my belief upon.

The pain medicine didn't help Karma's pain, and the cancer became more aggressive. Her appetite dwindled, and she wouldn't drink the water I offered her. I could see my baby was suffering, so I called the vet and asked her to come back and free Karma from her pain in the only way that was left -- euthanasia. It was the hardest, most heartbreaking decision I ever had to make in my life.

The funeral was very peaceful. I was alone, except for the funeral director and the gravediggers. Rain was predicted, and I was afraid it would interfere, but it held off until they were shoveling the dirt back into the ground, and it only sprinkled for a few minutes, then stopped.

After the funeral, as I was driving home, heading east, dark gray storm clouds were approaching from the west and accumulating overhead, and it began to rain again. As the raindrops fell on the windshield and the windshield wipers moved back and forth before my eyes, I started thinking about how Karma had suffered during the last week of her life, and I got all teary-eyed, feeling guilty, wondering if I had kept her with me too long before making the decision to let her go. Just then, at that very moment, looking out my windshield I saw on the horizon in the eastern sky, where the sun was still shining between white clouds above the mountains, a rainbow! But it wasn't like any other rainbow I've ever seen. It wasn't in the shape of a curved arc. It looked like a slanted stairway (or a bridge) going from the earth to the sky. I was amazed, and I knew it wasn't just coincidence. It was confirmation. It was fact, and it was proof (to me) that there really is a Rainbow Bridge. And Karma (or God) was letting me know that she's