

Heather

Written by Brian Adam

Monday, 18 February 2013 21:51 - Last Updated Sunday, 05 August 2018 05:36



Edinglas Purple Heather: March 2000 - June 2012

On July 18, 2007 we lost our little girl Tara, a 13 year-old English Setter most unexpectedly. Still healing, I wasn't ready for a new canine companion, but a few short months later, Mom & Dad brought home a beautiful 7 yr old retired Golden Retriever. I'll never forget the morning I first met "Heather";

Asleep upstairs, my parents brought her to my room - where she jumped right onto my bed & woke me! Immediately, Heather followed me around everywhere. Upstairs, downstairs, always by my side, my faithful shadow slept completely on top of me the first few nights. From that point on, we were inseparable soul mates. Though she adored everyone in the family unconditionally, there was no question that she was my girl & I hers.

I remember thinking: *Heather needed me* in this new, strange place. She'd found a soft spot in my heart and I would take care of her. It wasn't until years later I realized it was Heather that knew *I needed her*. She had come into my life at just the perfect moment.

Heather had an incredible disposition. She loved everyone, honestly & truly. She enjoyed her walks and would greet neighbours & strangers alike, asking to be pet. "What a beautiful dog!" would be the response every time, and she would be lavished with attention. No one could resist her gentle, gorgeous face! As children on the street excitedly greet & hug her, Heather just loved the attention and was always patient & gentle. She became best friends with 'Cooper' our Golden puppy - nurturing and raising him when he came into our home - they played and walked together always! Nudging every time she wanted a pet, we called her "our little nudgy noo noo";. We'd sit on the floor together, her head in my lap, sharing cuddles. At night, she would faithfully sleep on my bed, and when her body aged and she couldn't jump up, she would lie on the floor by the door. With her playful personality, she loved her stuffed animals; in sun or snow she would flop on the ground and wiggle, smiling as she kicked her happy legs!

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In May 2012 Heather became ill. Despite not feeling well, she was as faithful as ever, her brown eyes tired but always smiling, tail wagging, nose nudging. I spent as much time as I could with her. By June, we could see how exhausted she was. Her personality was still bright but her body was sick and tired. I came home and slept with her on the floor. Knowing it was our last night together, I comforted her & told her how much I loved her.

June 8, 2012 - a beautiful, sunny, summer day, in the green grass and gentle breeze of our backyard, Heather was allowed to finally rest. Her soul was released from her ailing body while I cradled her in my arms, best friends & soul mates to the very end. While we miss her more than words can express, and she has left a void that cannot be filled, our lives are so much the richer for having been blessed by her for those short 5 years. Thank you for such a wonderful companion, and the most loyal friend I could have ever imagined. "Dogs have a way of finding the people who need them. Filling an emptiness we don't even know we have"

Thank you Liz, for finding us our Heather Bear.

Melissa Ciraco (Carole, Vito, Matthew & Melissa Ciraco, and her puppy companion Copper)

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