



Dozer Dean Downs

December 10, 2008 - April 7, 2021

Dozer, you may have been deaf, but the silence of MY life without you is truly deafening. I'll never forget the day I saw you on Petfinder, I read the bio that you and Maggie shared, and without hesitation I immediately applied. I never thought we would lose Maggie so soon, but it brought us so much closer – you were my Velcro. You experienced so much more than most dogs ever have, you went to work with me, you went to every restaurant with me – we went to the park, the beach, the grocery store. My whole life revolved around taking care of you.

I know it was time to be re-united with your sister Maggie, but I can't help but feel I lost such a huge piece of my life. I don't know what to do without you. I'm sorry for your past – you came to me deaf and toothless – we battled you going blind, we battled anemia, and you never whined. You never cried or gave me any fuss. I'm sorry I couldn't have been with you your full 14 years – but I loved you so much more with each day than anyone else ever could in a lifetime. I will continue to rescue senior dogs in your honor, because I want every old dog to have the chance at life that you did – but you were my special boy – and no other dog could ever replace you.

The hardest part of caring for you was your deafness – because you never heard me say “I love you”. But as we sat in the doctor's office after you took your last labored breath – I hope from heaven, you finally got to hear me say “I love you Doodle”. I have your ashes in a pendant, close to my heart, so you will always be with me wherever I go.

I love you puppy.

-Joe Downs