

In Memory of Mattie



PAWS said goodbye to a true friend this past week: Mattie, a very special Golden Retriever, owned, trained and loved by Debbie Tomasik & Bill Vondrasek.

Many of you may have seen Mattie working the crowds for Tag Days, lending her endless energy to help her less-fortunate friends at the shelter. Mattie was always a favorite of the spectators gathered around to watch her work collecting dollars from the crowd and dropping them into her bucket or dazzling the crowd with her repertoire of tricks. With her beautiful "Golden smile" and soulful eyes, it was never long before she had people pulling out dollar after dollar just to watch her happily move through the crowd.

Mattie was our "Top Tagger" nearly every time she went out, raising thousands of dollars for our shelter animals. Mattie seemed to know it was up to her to help her canine and feline friends.

Mattie's last effort on behalf of our animals was at our last celebration in March, 2010 when we held our 36th anniversary gala. Mattie raised nearly \$1,000.00 to aid her shelter friends that evening.

Dogs like Mattie are one-in-a-million and she will truly be missed by so very many. Our deepest sympathies are sent to Mattie's Mom and Dad, Debbie Tomasik and Bill Vondrasek. They provided Mattie (and their 3 others) with a life and love of which most dogs could only dream. We thank them for letting us get to know and enjoy Mattie and for their incredible generosity over the years.

It is with heavy hearts that we go on with Tag Days without her this year, but we know she will be watching over the shelter from above.

Thank you Mattie and God bless.

Mattie's light will shine forever in the hearts of those who knew her.