

SUMMER 2016

30 Years Of Helping At Both Ends Of The Leash

NEWSLETTER

The Sampson Fund For Veterinary Care



Thank You, Kyppa

by Olivia Miller

She may have crossed over "the rainbow bridge" in 2013; but Kyppa, a very special Rottweiler, is giving back to The Sampson Fund For Veterinary Care. Here is her story.

Kyppa lived in Wellfleet with her owners, Josh Hogg and Michelle "Fluff" Dubé. According to Fluff, "Kyppa was the perfect dog, a dream come true. She was a smart, wonderful ambassador for the breed. We won the lottery with her." Kyppa was, in fact, an AKC Registered Therapy Dog and a Canine Good Citizen. Active in the local Companion Animal Program, Fluff and Kyppa were regular visitors to nursing homes.

In October 2011 Kyppa was diagnosed with lymphoma. She was seven years old. The couple brought her to Cape Cod Veterinary Specialists in Buzzards Bay. "I cried all the way there," Fluff recalled. Dr. Andy Abbo suggested a course of chemotherapy, and the cancer quickly went into remission. About eight months later, however, it returned.

Dr. Abbo recommended a second round of expensive chemotherapy. The first round cost \$5,000. Since Cape Cod Veterinary Specialists is a member of the Sampson Fund For Veterinary Care, Dr.



Abbo suggested they apply for financial assistance. At first Fluff resisted the idea. "I believed this was our responsibility and we should be able to pay, even if it meant maxing out our credit cards. I thought, 'I can't, I shouldn't...' but Josh thought we should try. He said, 'If we don't qualify, we don't qualify.' "

"We applied to The Sampson Fund and it was able to help for the second round of chemo. We got an extra 20 months with Kyppa ... two more snowy winters and one more summer to swim every day!

"But cancer always wins. She passed on June 8, 2013, one day before her ninth birthday. Josh said, 'We have to do what's right by her' and we had to let her go."

For years Fluff had had an idea for a children's book; after Kyppa passed she knew it was time to turn the idea into reality. [Kyppa and the Duckling](#) was published in July 2015 and is the story of an unlikely friendship between a Rottweiler and a duckling. Fluff has since donated proceeds of two book signings to The Sampson Fund.

Josh also contributed by matching the donations, which, Fluff admitted, are small. "But

we want to give back and it's the thought that counts," she added. "Plus one signing was at Animal Rights Day at Massachusetts School of Law in Andover, so we spread the word about The Sampson Fund."

Fluff and Josh are immensely grateful to The Sampson Fund. "The financial help was a godsend, but it went beyond that," she explained. "It was also a gesture of understanding, a message that said, 'We get that this is important. We're here for you. We care.' "



P.O. Box 1756, Orleans, MA 02653
www.sampsonfund.org
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Sampson Fund

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SAMPSON FUND MISSION STATEMENT

To provide financial assistance for the rehabilitative veterinary treatment of critically ill or injured dogs and cats whose caregivers cannot afford treatment or who are found without known caregivers, thereby offering an alternative to euthanasia and preserving the unique emotional, social and beneficial bonds that tie animals and humans together.

For further information about The Sampson Fund, please visit our website at www.sampsonfund.org

A MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER:

It is difficult for me to believe that thirty years have gone by since Alberto Williams stopped by my practice to take home the ashes of Sampson, his cat. Sampson was a beat-up, old, orange, stray tom that decided to come in from the cold and adopt Mr. Williams. The two were devoted companions long into their elder years. Sampson quite often got into fights with other cats, and when he bit off more than he could chew, Alberto always saw that Sampson was made well again. After I handed him the small tin containing the ashes, Mr. Williams reached in his pocket and gave me a check for twenty-five dollars with the request that I use it "to help some other animal whose owner could not afford care". That act of kindness, in the midst of his grief, was the inspiration for The Sampson Fund.

Alberto's gift was his way of acknowledging how much Sampson had enriched his life. He lived alone very modestly, and even though Sampson's pugilistic proclivities strained his finances, to Mr. Williams, the unquestioning companionship Sampson provided was well worth the expense.

For thirty years, The Sampson Fund has been trying to ensure that when critical veterinary care is needed that could otherwise not be afforded, four-legged companions have a chance to remain with their two-legged friends. We do this because the good people who volunteer to work for The Fund and those who otherwise contribute understand that pets benefit their human companions in many wonderful ways.

In this age of Ultra Hi Def TV and smart phones with app after app, it is refreshing to recollect the purr of a contented cat or the smell of a puppy's breath as it licks your face. There's no app for that yet. Although the next thirty years will bring changes we can't begin to imagine, I know the bond between human and animal will endure, and hopefully, The Sampson Fund will still be "Helping at Both Ends of the Leash."

Thank you for all your valued support. Christopher S. Donner VMD

The Sampson Fund For Veterinary Care is grateful for the support of:

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Remembering Our Pets

In memory of **"Maggie" Shannon**
Patricia Dolan

In memory of **"Evi" Weekes**
Ron and Joan LaBier

In memory of **"Pearlie"**
C.A. Chichetto

In memory of **"Lassie" Dowd**
Pat Scarnici

In memory of **"Kirby" Koch**
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In memory of **"Tyson" Mills**
Bill and Gerie Schumann

In memory of **"Bailey" Simmons**
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In memory of **"Hunter Blue"**
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In memory of **"Munchkin"**
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In memory of **"Raven" Carroll**
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In memory of **"Ranger"**
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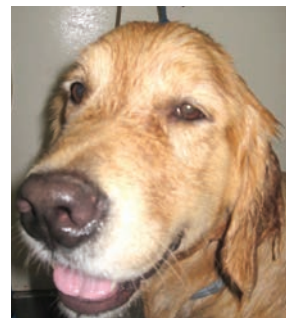
In memory of **"Buddy"**
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Bill and Gerie Schumann

In memory of **"Clemmie"**
Priscilla Bradshaw Page

In memory of **"Mooch"**
"Annie" and "Coca"
Beth Climo

Sampson Fund Summer Dog Washes

Saturday, July 9, and
Saturday, August 13, from 9 to
noon at VCA Pleasant Bay Animal
Hospital at the intersection of
Route 137 and Queen Anne Road,
East Harwich. Groomer Randi
Moberg washes and volunteers
towel dry the dogs. We always
have some laughs along the way. We hope to see you
at one or both of these events. You'll take home a clean,
sweet-smelling dog while supporting The Sampson Fund.



THE 8TH ANNUAL

FantastaGorey Day Summer Childrens Celebration

The
Sampson Fund
will be set up.
Come by and
say hi.

A Free Festival at the
EDWARD GOREY HOUSE
Saturday, Aug 6th from Noon to 4pm
Come rain or shine!

Calling all kids young and old alike to the Edward Gorey
House—free admission to the Museum all day with both
indoor and outdoor activities, including face-painting,
story reading, mask-making, book-making,
fortune telling, scavenger hunts
popcorn, ice cream and
surprises by the hour!

www.EdwardGoreyHouse.org
or 508-362-3909 for more info.



8 Strawberry Lane in Yarmouth Port, MA
(off the Yarmouth Port Commons on Rte 6A)



Tracy Shields of Hangar B. Eatery at
Chatham Municipal Airport holding a
t-shirt with the restaurant's logo, and
her dog Stacy peeking around the
side. This summer Hangar B. Eatery
will be donating 15% of t-shirt sales
to The Sampson Fund in memory of
Stacy, who died this past winter.



P.O. Box 1756
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The Sampson Fund For Veterinary Care is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Your donation is tax deductible.