

REMEMBERING RAWLEY

By Caroline L.



Rawley got off to a bit of a bumpy start - he was found at 6 months old limping on the streets of San Jose. He was suffering from mange, had swollen front legs and x-rays revealed small fractures and a bone chip.

We adopted him when he was around 8 months old. Upon the recommendation of two orthopedic surgeons, we had a carpal arthrodesis done to fix the bone chip and install a plate. Rawley loved to look us straight in the eyes and then start chewing on his cast. We were probably at our regular vet twice a week getting a new cast!

Once out of his cast, he broke his toe, so back in the cast he went (with the same result of chewing it off)! After

that cast came off, a checkup with the surgeon revealed that the plate was infected. So he went back into surgery to remove the plate. Finally, he was all healed up but then decided he didn't like my husband. Lots of turkey and cheese hand-fed to Rawley got him to love my husband again. We thought Rawley would have permanent damage to his leg but he was lucky--he just had a paw that looked spread out.

Rawley had a full life - he went to doggy daycare twice a week

(where he was loved by everyone who knew him), he walked 2+ miles a day and loved everyone he met. He was the only dog I've ever had that hated a crate - he knew how to get out of anything daycare put him in. He could also open the pen doors if he didn't want to be in the doggie daycare group.



For the last 8 years, my husband, Rawley and I walked with our 99 year old neighbor 5 days a week. Rawley and our neighbor got to be very well known in the neighborhood and he always got lots of comments about what a good and handsome dog he was. We knew that we were on borrowed time with Rawley (who would have been 11 in March). Unfortunately, he didn't make it to his birthday. On January 27th, he experienced a spontaneous pneumothorax and he was gone in 3 hours.

Rawley was truly one of a kind - he especially loved women and was quite the charmer. I can't even put into words how big his personality was. When he was tired at daycare, he would go up to a human and hold up his fused leg as if it was hurting him. Sometimes he would try to get sympathy by holding up his non-fused leg. They would always remind him that his injured leg was the other one!

Rawley loved dogs and people and was perfect for our family. Our hearts truly broke when he passed away and we miss him every day. We hope that one day we will be ready to contact GSRNC for another addition to our family.